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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1866.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE political season, like the legal, the musical, the fashionable, and every other kind of season, which inexorable custom declares shall take place in England in the summer, is now nearly at an end. It is expected that Parliament will be prorogued on the 10th of next month; and in the meanwhile the Conservative Government will have the best of all reasons for doing nothing. They will really not have time to do anything, except to dispute with the Opposition about what might, could, would, or should have been done already, or what may, can, will, and shall be done next spring.

An excellent letter has been addressed to the Daily News by Mr. Goldwin Smith, on the subject of the war, in which the writer takes occasion to express regret at the fact of a Conservative Government being now in power. Such countenance and help as England can give without taking up arms will, Mr. Goldwin Smith fears, be given to Austria-a Power for which British Conservatives have always entertained a strong predilection. And, by-the-way, if Austria ever comes out alive from the present apparently mortal difficulty in which she is plunged, we may be sure that she will be more Conservative than ever, for she had just begun to liberalise her institutions when her present troubles came upon her, and the two facts cannot fail to be connected in Austrian Ministerial circles. The Austrian Government, without being a cruel Government, except in the face of grave provocation, has always been a systematic champion of the

status quo-or, rather, always had been until after the Italian war, by which she lost Lombardy in a direct manner, and, indirectly, all influence in Italy. Then, however, she entered, or affected to wish to enter, upon a Parliamentary career. In Austrian State documents we all at once read of nothing but Reichsraths of various kinds, and into the larger Reichsrath or Council of the whole empire, the deputies elected by the Magyars and Sclavonians of Hungary, the Poles of Galicia, the Tchekhs of Bohemia had a right to enter and to deliberate, but only on condition of their transforming themselves more or less completely into Germans. All endeavours to make an Austrian Parliament failed; and the attempt to conciliate Hungary by forming a more or less Germanised imitation of the old Hungarian Diet was on the point of failing, and virtually had already miscarried, when the present war broke out.

Having been beaten in Germany, Austria is now turning to the Hungarians and hinting to them that the days of Maria Theresa and the opportunity for raising anew the cry of moriamur pro rege nostro have returned. But the Hungarian nobles have forgotten the Latin language, and the Hungarian middle and lower classes have not forgotten the insurrection of 1848, nor the severity with which it was suppressed, and the treachery with which the principal leaders were punished after they had surrendered under a distinct promise of an amnesty.

desire the utter break-up of the Austrian empire—a result by which the disorganised Hungarians, Bohemians, and Poles would certainly not profit, and which could only turn to the advantage of Russia, who, if she interferes in Hungarian affairs again, will do so to claim and annex a portion of Hungarian territory. Mr. Goldwin Smith, and haters of Austria in general, can prove Austria to be in the wrong on almost all points. So, also, France, and Prussia above all, can be proved from time immemorial to have been guilty of variety of political crimes. But the downfall of Austria cannot take place without Russia being enabled to extend her territory and increase her influence to an almost incalculable extent; and for this reason alone Englishmen, and rational Liberals in all parts of Europe who do think of the interests of Europe as well as of the interests of their own little province, ought to look upon the destruction, or even the too great abasement, of the Austrian empire as a misfortune that ought at almost all hazards to be guarded against. The best we can hope for Austria now is that she may consent to the diminution, not to say extinction, of her power in Germany, and endeavour to conciliate and really gain the affections of her Hungarian, Polish, and Bohemian subjects. But there are many difficulties in the way of this; and we, who have so long advocated the cession of Venetia because the Venetian subjects of Austria have so long wished to be free, cannot well blame the sister nationalities oppressed by the same England is too prudent and too unspeculative a country to | yoke if they exhibit the same aspirations towards liberty and



THE PRINCE OF WALES TRYING A SHOT AT THE RUNNING DEER AT WIMBLEDON-

independence. This, however, means nothing less than the destruction of Austria.

At the present moment, then, and considering Count Bismarck's expressed declaration that Prussia has no design on Moravia, Bohemia, or any territory belonging to the Austrian Crown, we cannot help hoping that Prussia may strengthen herself so as to form a powerful barrier against the ambitious aims of France. But it would be rather strange to forget that Russia is also, and, above all, an ambitious Power; and that against Russia, and her designs in the East, the only possible barrier is Austria.

There are some politicians who look upon these considerations as vain, and who will not allow that, for the sake of a theory on the subject of general European security, one single Hungarian, Pole, or Italian, ought to be subjected to the government of a foreign Power. But if this argument were pushed a step further it would be necessary to maintain that no individual ought to be subjected to any Power, domestic or foreign, against his will. If laws are to be formed for whole nations, it is difficult to understand why there should not also be laws for empires in which not nations, but for the most part fragments of nations, are included. But the great question which now agitates all Europe is full of difficulties. This question is-whether the principle of nationalities is to be sacrificed to the principle of treaties and of general European safety, or, as it used to be called, "the balance of power;" or whether, on the other hand, the principle of nationalities is to be held superior to all others.

In England, in accordance with our practical habits, we are accustomed to dispose of a political proposition when it forces itself upon us and demands an immediate solution, but not till then. We say nothing positive about Moravia, Bohemia, Galicia, and Hungary, whose fate is not at the present moment under consideration. But as regards Venetia there can be no doubt that it would be better for the Venetians, better for the Italians of the Italian kingdom, better for Austria herself, and better for all Europe, that this long-disputed, long-suffering province should be placed under the sovereignty of Victor Emmanuel; and if any English Government opposes the aspirations of Italy in this particular, it will be as impolitic and unjust to oppose the aspirations of Prussia-the German Piedmont-in connection with a united Germany.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

FRANCE.

Prince Napoleon left on Monday night for the head-quarters of the army under Victor Emmanuel. His Highness is intrusted with a special mission.

A telegram from Vienna of Tuesday states that, at an Imperial family council held on Monday, at which the Ministers were present, it was decided that the proposals for armistice and peace made to Austria were inadmissible, and that the war should be energetically continued.

The levy which had been ordered throughout the whole Free maritime registry has been countermanded, and the arming of the fleet has been suspended.

SPAIN.

A decree has been issued ordering, by virtue of the extraordinary powers recently granted to the Government, a reduction in the salaries of civil and military officials receiving more than 6000 reals

PRUSSIA.

PRUSSIA.

The bill to authorise elections for a German Parliament will be laid before the Prussian Chambers as soon as possible. The elections, it is expected, will take place in August, and the Parliament will be opened immediately after the close of the Prussian Chambers, and not later than September next.

The municipality of Husun has sent an address to the King of Prussia felicitating his Majesty upon his victories in Bohemia, which it compares with the achievements of the great Elector Frederick and the victorious struggle of Prussia to deliver Germany from the dominion of Napoleon I. In conclusion, the address expresses a wish that the Elbe Duchies may ever remain united to Prussia, and that Germany may attain such a position among the nations of Europe as she has a right to claim.

HUNGARY.

Intelligence from Vienna states that proclamations, signed by Kossuth and Klapks, have been posted up in Szegedin and other towns of Hungary. The agitation in Hungary was increasing, and armed insurgents had made their appearance in various parts of the hindown

TURKEY AND THE PRINCIPALITIES.

Telegrams from Constantinople, dated the 11th inst., announce that at a conference of the Turkish Ministers and the Ambassadors of the great Powers held on that day, the Porte had decided on recognising Prince Charles of Hohenzollern as Hospodar of the Principalities. Turkey also accords to the Hohenzollern family the direct hereditary succession to the Roumanian throne.

RUSSIA.

An Imperial ukase has been issued declaring that the investigation of the commission appointed to inquire into the recent attempt upon the life of the Czar prove that in several places abroad criminal intentions are harboured against the power and constitution of the Government of Russia. It is therefore decreed that a griminal tribunal of investigation shall be instituted, under the presidency of M. Cararin.

M. Gagarin.

The Gazetta Narodowa of Lemberg announces that all soldiers on furlough in Russia have been called in, and says, "Every day militure of Stlesia and Galicia."

Turnongh in Russia have been called in, and says, "Every day military trains start from Warsaw to the frontiers of Silesia and Galicia.

Russian troops are marching from Podolia to Bessarabia."

In diplomatic circles in St. Petersburg it is declared that Russia has no present intention of abandoning her policy of neutrality, and that only in case of active intervention of a foreign Power in the German conflict would she make declarations and take up an atti-tude corresponding with her interests. The Russian journals have full liberty in the expression of their opinions with regard to the present conflict, but the existence of any semi-official influence in the Russian press is officially denied.

We have received advices from New York to the 7th inst. The news is not of special interest.

A bill had been introduced in the House of Representatives and A bill had been introduced in the House of Representative and referred to Committee on Foreign Affairs authorising the establishment of territorial Governments in British American Provinces and the assumption of their debts, with payment of 10,000,000 dols, to the Hudson Bay Company, whenever the Governments of Great Britain and of those provinces shall apply for the admission of the

said provinces into the Union. The resolution offered in the House, on June 4, in favour of according belligerent rights to the Fenians had been called up and rejected. A Conference Committee on the Tax Bill have advised a tax of 3c. per lb. on cotton.

The North Carolina Legislature had rescinded the Act excluding negro testimony in the courts in cases wherein negroes are interested. The Democratic and Conservative members of Congress had issued a call for a national convention, to be held at Philadelphia, on the 14th of August, in order to determine the course of action to be taken by Congress and secure the complete and immediate restoration of the Union.

Colonel Scott, commanding the forces in South Carolins, reports a great increase of crime and vagrancy among the freed men, and that they show complete disregard of their labour contracts.

A dreadful fire had occurred at Portland, burning nearly half the city, and rendering 2000 families homeless. The fire destroyed property to the value of 10,000,000 dols.

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The Fenian senate had issued an address urging the Fenians to continue their labours with vigour and perseverance

MEXICO.

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Intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 26th of June states that Marshal Bazaine was about to inaugurate a vigorous campaign against the Republicans in Sonora and Sinaloa. The Emperor Maximilian had ordered military conscription to be enforced. Tampico was still closely besteged by the Republicans. The Imperial treasury is reported to be exhausted.

It was reported that Juarez was about to move his capital to Matamoros.

By the latest arrival from Australia we learn that Sir Charles Darling sailed for England on the 7th of May. Previous to leaving Australia £20,000 was voted to Sir Charles, but he declined to accept it until the Queen's consent is obtained. The Ministry had threatened to resign in consequence of the Governor having issued warrants for the recovery of the outstanding bonds and customs duties.

THE WAR ON THE CONTINENT.

PROGRESS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

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PROGRESS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

THE Prussians are pushing the Austrians very hard. The main body of the Prussian army is advancing from Brünn, and on Wednesday took up its head-quarters across the Thaya at Lundenburg, at the junction of the railways from Olmütz and Brünn to Vienna. Some Prussian troops are even reported to be nearly in sight of Vienna. It is stated that the Archduke Albert has nearly 300,000 menon the line of the Danube near to Vienna, and that he intends to fight there. This is besides another corps of nearly 50,000 men who were in Olmütz, but who seem to be retiring on Presburg. Not without molestation, however; for a telegram from Prussian head-quarters at Brünn, dated Monday, informs us that on Sunday another engagement took place before Olmitz, between the Austrians and Saxons and the Prussians, and that the latter, who were commanded by the Crown Prince, were again successful. Sixteen guns were captured. Other engagements were immediately expected to take place. Géneral Benedek, who has been relieved from his functions as Commander-in-Chief of the northern army, remains commander of an army corps. The Prague and Brünn railway is employed for military purposes by the Prussians.

There is now no doubt whatever that all likelihood of an armistice between Austria, Prussia, and Italy is destroyed. Austria positively refuses to accept the condition laid down by Prussia that she should cease to be a German Power. A Berlin paper publishes Article 3 of the treaty between Prussia and Italy. By this both Powers bound themselves not to make peace or consent to an armistice without the assent of each other. This shows clearly enough that even if Italy had been willing to accept Venetia from the Emperor Napoleon and to agree to an armistice she could not do so without the assent of Prussia. That Power had, of course, her views as to Germany to carry out, and the cession of Venetia assisted none of these. She therefore proposed terms to Austria which, unless that Power felt destitu

of all strength, she could not accept. As we have now said, Austria resolves rather to trust to the chances of war. What those chances are it is not easy to estimate. All the troops in Venetia, save those necessary to garrison the fortresses and defend the passes, have been mitthday and the triple of the passes, have been supported by the passes of t withdrawn, and by this time are on the Danube, before Vienz

withdrawn, and by this time are on the Danube, before Vienna. The Prussians are marching down upon this position in great force; their centre and right either having joined again, or being able to make a juncture at a few hours' notice. Their left is observing the Austrian army corps at Olmitz, or just south of that place.

A sanguinary conflict took place, on Saturday last, between the Prussians and Federals near Aschaffeuburg, in which the former were completely victorious. The Darmstadt division attacked the Grüben division on the 13th inst near Laufach, but was repulsed with great loss by the Wrangel brigade, which had come up to reinforce the Grüben division. The Grüben division was vigorously attacked on the following day by the united Austrian, Darmstadt, and Electorel Hessian forces. The Prussians, however, stormed Aschaffenburg, and the Federals were driven back across the Maine. The Prussian loss was small. The Austrian loss was 800 men killed and wounded, and 1500 prisoners. The Federal troops are represented to be thoroughly demoralised. At the request of Bavaria, a truce has been established between the Prussian and Bavarian armies.

Bayarian armies.

The Federal troops immediately evacuated Frankfort, and the seat The Federal troops immediately evacuated Frankfort, and the seat of the Diet was removed to Augsburg. That body, in notifying to the Frankfort Senate its intention of removing to Augsburg, stated that this step was forced on them by the ill-success of the Federal forces. It also expressed its acknowledgment of the fidelity of Frankfort to the Confederation, and hoped that the proposed German Parliament would assemble in the city. After their victorious engagements with the Federals near Lanfach and Aschaffenburg the Wrangel brigade entered this city on the 16th inst., and was followed next day by the Kümmer brigade. The 19th Prussian Regiment has occupied Höchst and Biebrich, and has captured the Hessian pontoon-train. The Prussians are also stated to be surrounding Mentz. General Falkenstein has established his head-quarters at Frankfort, and has issued a proclamation that he assumes the government of Nassau, Frankfort, and the occupied portions of Bavaria and Darmstadt. The administrative authorities remain for the present in office, but will only obey the orders of General Falkenstein.

The Berlin official Staats-Anzeiger of Monday says:—"The assertions of various newspapers that Prussia has demanded the

obey the orders of General Falkenstein.

The Berlin official Staats-Anxiger of Monday says:—"The assertions of various newspapers that Prussia has demanded the cession of Bohemia and Moravia as a condition of peace are entirely unfounded. A glance at the map shows that the possession of these countries by Prussia would not be a source of strength but of weakness; national interests also would render such an acquisition undesirable. The aim of the policy of Prussia is directed towards the establishment of a new Confederation and the convocation of a German Parliament. Connection with countries only in part apperof the assembly of the Parliament."

volunteers were repulsed with the loss of two field officers, a large number of men, and one hundred prisoners.

The Italian Government has appointed a commission to consider what changes are required in the administration of Venetia.

THE PRUSSIANS IN PRAGUE.

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The entrance of the Prussians into Prague took place early on Sunday forencon, the 8th inst. Shortly after eight o'clock the first Prussian soldier, a sergeant, rode up to the Hotel de Ville to inform the burgomaster that the division of the Elbe army intended to occupy Prague was close at hand. By desire of the burgomaster, a number of the magistracy accompanied the sergeant to the Hradschin, where the military stables were inspected and approved.

Thousands of inquisitive spectators hastened in the mean time to the suburb of Carolinenthal. At nine a.m. the Prussian pickets, three men of the 5th Hussars, with cocked carbines, rode through Carolinenthal and halted before the Spittel-gate. They were speedily followed by a squadron of the same regiment, headed by a number of officers belonging to different regiments. This advanced guard was ordered to draw sabres close by the Spittel-gate, and, accompanied by an enormous crowd, rode slowly into the town, where they halted before the main guard occupied by the sharpshooters of the civic guard. The sentry at once turned out the guard, and the Prussians were received with military honours. The officers of the three corps of the civic guard advanced, saluted the commander of the hoetile troops, and assured him the city was completely free from Austrians. The squadron then returned to Carolinenthal, followed by the burgomaster of Prague and a number of the municipal authorities, with the staff-officers of the civic guard, to receive Major-General von Greeszczynski, the Prussian commander. The march past of the entire division of 8000 men ensued, occupying nearly two hours.

The 5th Regiment of Hussars of the Guard led the way, followed

march past of the entire division of 8000 men ensued, occupying nearly two hours.

The 5th Regiment of Hussars of the Guard led the way, followed by the 1st and 2nd Landwehr Guards and their sanitary corps. Then came two batteries of foot artillery, the 1st and 4th Landwehr Guards, all with flying colours, then two more batteries foot artillery, and their sanitary corps, and, lastly, a long line of military train. Numbers of persons, appointed by the burgomaster, conducted the men to their barracks and the officers to their quarters.

quarters.

The hussars wear shakes, red jackets with white cords, green trousers with red braiding, and white cartridge-belts. Their arms are heavy cavalry sabres and a carbine, not a needle-gun. The horses look well, and are plainly caparisoned. The infantry all have blue uniforms, evidently damaged by service. The men carry needle-guns; some of the officers swords, others sabres. The unrounted officers have a knawack like the men but lighter of the needle-guns; some of the officers swords, others sabres. The unmounted officers have a knapsack like the men, but lighter, of black leather. The Landwehr regiments have no brass bands, their music consisting only of fifes and drums. The artillery wear helmets. The guns are each drawn by six horses, and both carriages and bores are very large. The sanitary corps also wear helmets, and have the white international neutrality colours painted upon their carriages, bearing themselves the distinctive armlet, with the red or black cross. The appearance of all the men is good; many are truly martial figures. The majority are men over thirty, and many wear the medal for the last Danish War. The officers are generally young. The behaviour of the men hitherto has been courteous and good; they go about the city in groups, and are met with civility by the townspeople.

and good; they go about the city in groups, and are met with civility by the townspeople.

The Prussian flag now waves upon that part of the Hradschin formerly inhabited by the ex-Emperor Ferdinand, indicating the spot where Major-General von Rosenberg Greeszczynski has established his head-quarters. Immediately in front of the castle twelve unlimbered guns are planted ready for immediate use—four covering approaches to the Hradschin and eight commanding the city.

ORDER OF THE DAY TO THE ARMY OF THE SOUTH. Archduke Albert has issued the following order of the day to the

army of the south :-

Archduke Albert has issued the following order of the day to the army of the south:—
Soldiers of the Army of the South,—Our arms have not been favoured in our first combats in the north. The check, however, which they have experienced has not been able to shake the confidence of our august Sovereign in our good right and our strength, and the whole of Austria has likewise unshakably resolved upon the most determined conflict until an honourable peace shall have been obtained, assuring the European position of Austria.

By the Imperial resolution made known in the manifesto of the 10th of July a new task is assigned to us. While the necessary forces remain behind to guard the fortresses of the country and protect, in concert with the faithful and brave population, the strongholds of the Tyrol of inner Austria and the coasts, I depart with the rest of the army for the north, where the decisive blows will be struck.

Comrades in arms! I know that you quit with pain the theatre of your last battles. But the hope of fresh victories animates afresh your forces and your courage. You are called upon to complete in the north what you have so brilliantly commenced in the south.

Soldiers of the garrisons of the fortresses of Venice, of the Tyrol, and of the coast! I declare you to be the inheritors of the victory of Custozza, and I leave you as the brave and faithful guardians of the work which has been commenced. Whatever may happen, hold on with unshakable tenacity to this glorious legacy, and raise aloft the banner of our dear Austria. Your task is as indispensable in the south as ours in the north. All will have part in the same honour, the same gratitude.

Filled with calm confidence, I wish you, in my own name and in the name of all those who are leaving you, a cordial farswell, but at the same time I look forward to our meeting again.

And you who go with me to the north, let us show the world, in concert with our brothers in arms already there, that the strength of Austria is not yet broken. Let us march to the d

MANIFESTO OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA TO THE HUNGARIANS. The following Royal manifesto has been issued at Pesth :-

The following Royal manifesto has been issued at Pesth:—

To the Faithful Peoples of my Kingdom of Hungary,—The hand of Providence weighs heavily upon us. In the condict into which I have been drawn, not voluntarily, but through the force of circumstances, every human calculation has been frustrated, save only the condidence I placed in the heroic bravery of my valiant army. The more grievous are the heavy losses by which the ranks of those brave men have been smitten, and my paternal heart feels the bitterness of that grief with all the families affected. To put an end to the unequal contest—to gain time and opportunity to fill up the voids occasioned by the campaign—and to concentrate my forces against the hostile troops occupying the northern portion of my empire, I have consented, with great sacrifices, to negotiations for the conclusion of an armistice. I now turn condidently to the faithful peoples of my kingdom of Hungary, and to that readiness to make sacrifices so repeatedly displayed in arduous times. The united exertions of my entire empire must be set in motion, that the conclusion of the wished-for peace may be secured upon fair conditions. It is my profound belief that the warlike sons of Hungary, actuated by the feeling of hereditary fidelity, will voluntarily hasten under my banners to the assistance of their kindred, and for the protection of their country, also immediately threatened by the events of the war. Bally, therefore, in force, to the defence of the invaded empire. Be worthy sons of your valiant forefathers, whose heroic deeds gained never-fading wreaths of laurel for the glory of the Hungarian name.

Figure 1. LETTER TO COUNT BISMARCK.

LETTER TO COUNT BISMARCK.

Baron von Roggenbach, formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Grand Duchy of Baden, has recently forwarded the following letter to Count Biamarck:—

of the assembly of the Parliament."

Of the operations in Italy our information is very scant, as no newspaper correspondents are allowed to accompany the army, opposition. He has taken possession of Padua and other places, and had reached Vicenza, which he occupied. A force under La Marmora is following in Cialdini's wake. The Austrians content themselves with holding the fortified positions. Several conflicts have taken place between the Garibaldians and the enemy in the Tyrol mountains, the passage of which seems a difficult task for the volunteers. In one or two of these conflicts the Garibaldini had the best of it; but, as a general rule, they find the Austrians too strong to be dislodged from their positions. From Vienna we have news of an engagement on Monday in the Tyrol at Condino between the Austrians and the Italian volunteers under Nicotera. Condino is a small place on the pass entering the Tyrol, north of Lake Idro, by the Chicae River, and is a little north of Lodrone. The telegram asserts that the

lutions of the Diet, be the last abuse effected by Hapsburg intrigue by means of the cunningly adduced Federal right brought forward by the Vienna Cabinet. I, for my part at least, am of opinion that similar crimes to this Federal war, wantonly brought down by the Middle States upon their peoples and upon Germany, must for the future be guarded against. For this purpose it is necessary that the system of the Germanic Confederation, created in 1815 for her own service by Austria, and always found ready to serve, shall be broken up, and a German State be founded in its stead, strong enough to withdraw itself in future from the decomposing influence of this accursed policy of the Vienna Court.

If your Excellency is prepared to do the work thoroughly, and to stand firm in the contest until the important objects of all the efforts of the German people for half a century are attained, you will always find me ready to co-operate in such fashioning of German State relations anew as will of itself result from the overthrow of the Austrian Power, based upon the oppression of all nationalities and all liberty, and from the limitation of the sowerign rights of the Governments allied with Austria for that prose, As at the present time but one aim exists, so I make also no further condition for my offer than the energy of will to attain that aim at any price. I empower your Excellency, if you consider it useful, to publish this letter.

tter. Accept, M. le Comte, the assurance of my most distinguished esteem. ROGGENBACH.

THE SEAT OF WAR IN BOHEMIA.

Our readers will more readily understand the present position of the troops in Bohemia and the operations which have led to the recent events by referring to the accompanying map of the Bohemian territory, which has been the scene of the late military operations.

operations.

The frontier which divides the Austrian dominions from Saxony The frontier which divides the Austrian dominions from Saxony and Silesia is a mountain chain of irregular outline, extending from the limits of Northern Bavaria to the neighbourhood of Cracow. It is an angular frontier, the salient of which lies between Silesia and the right bank of the Elbe. This river, as all readers know, breaks through the mountains some miles below Prague and above Dresden, and the road along its left bank and the passes to the west of it form one of the many issues across the chain. To the eastward, over the Elbe, the important defiles are those which run from Rumburg, Zittau, and Friedland; thence eastward runs the rugged wall of the Giant Mountains, unbroken by a single practicable pass for forty miles. But where what Mr. Carlyle finely calls the "wizard solitudes and highland wastes" of this range come to an end, the pass of Landshut, so famous in the wars of Frederick and the Empress-Queen, gives access to and from Bohemia; and near by, where the sounds of Giatz presists like a hurse

of Frederick and the Empress-Queen, gives access to and from Bohemia; and near by, where the county of Glatz projects like a huge bastion into Austrian territory, two passes, from Braunau and from Reinerz, break through the rough hills and give entry to the valleys of the Aupa and Upper Elbe. Further eastward several passes, from the county of Glatz, from Neisse, from Upper Silesia, connect the lands on each side.

In this territory Pardubitz was evidently the key of the position for an army which desired to interpose between Olmutz and the railways and roads reaching towards Vienna, and the Prussians seem to have taken it for granted that Benedek would occupy this place with the Austrian forces. Seeing that the roads from Zittau, and Nachod, and Trautenau converge upon Pardubitz, they determined to move directly upon that some time to push a strong force through the mountains of Silesia, press back the right of Benedek's army, seize the roads, bring the Silesian corps into line with the corps from Saxony, and at the corps from Saxony, and throw the united force upon the nexus of Benedek's line of communication, or upon him, if he gave them the opportunity.

The army was divided into the

corps from saxony, and a throw the nexus of Benedek's line of communication, or upon him, if he gave them the opportunity.

The army was divided into the first army, commanded by Prince Charles, and that of Silesia, commanded by the Crown Prince, who had to force the passes out of Landshut and Glatz, within sight of the fortress of Josephstadt. The junction of both armies was afterwards to be effected with that of the Elbe under General Bitterfield.

General Benedek, meanwhile, appears to have had all his corps behind—that is, on the left bank of the Elbe, except the lat Corps, part of the Saxons, and a cavalry division. These were on the roads leading from Bastern Baxony to the valley of the Elbe and Iser.

In four days the Prince was master of the railway as far as Turnau, and of the roads which led to Gitschin, the town where he hoped to effect a junction with the Crown Prince. In the mean time, when the telegraph informed the Crown Prince that his cousin had reached the Iser, the former put his corps in motion. Benedek was ready to meet them. On the 27th two corps pushed through the passes, the first on Trautenau, the fifth upon Nachod. General von Gablens on the 27th did, as reported, drive the first out of Trautenau, but on the 28th did as reported, drive the first out of Trautenau, but on the 28th the Guards made good the passage of the defiles, and outfianking Gablens by Eypel, forced him back upon Königinhof and his communications with Josephstadt. At the same time the 5th Prussian Corps, emerging by Nachod and Braunau, made head against the Austrian sixth; and, on the 28th, sided by the Prussian sixth, swept two Austrian corps off the road at Skalitz, whence there was lateral communication with Trautenau.

The next day, the 29th, that junction was facilitated by the expulsion of the 1st Austrian Corps and the Saxons from Gitschin, after a hard fight, triumphantly won by the breech-loader and good tactics; and thus the sole obstacle to the union of the independent armies being removed, Prince Charles h

on the Crown Prince, having marched all the By the atternoon the Crown Prince, having marched all the morning, struck full on the Austrian right wing. Exhausted and overborne, many thousands were cut off and laid down their arms, and the rest fled towards the Elbe, leaving behind their wounded and the greater part of their artillery. So crushing was the defeat that it opened an easy road directly upon those great linea of communication with Prague on one side and Olmutz, Brinn, and Vienna on the other. on the other.

WAR NEWS FIFTY YEARS AGO.

WAR NEWS FIFTY YEARS AGO.

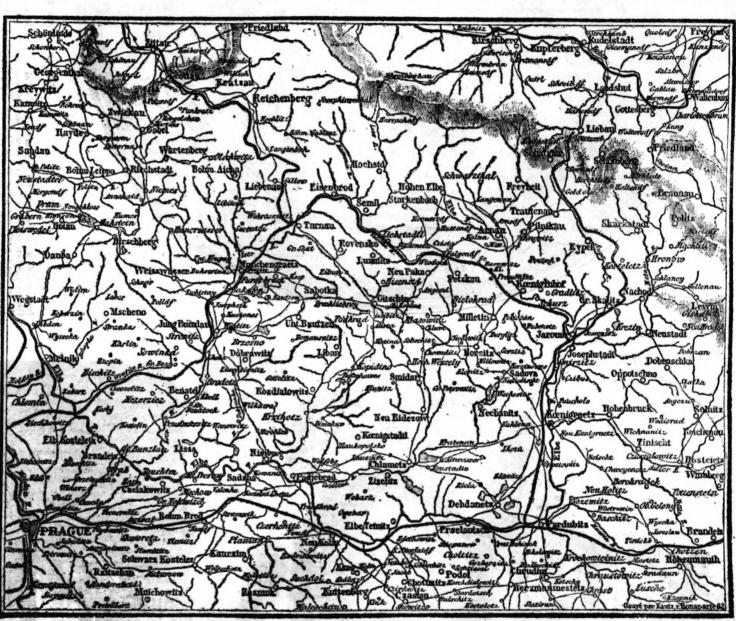
THE rapidity and accuracy with which intelligence has reached this country from day to day of the events of the Bohemian campaign are made even yet more striking by a reference to the state of things which prevailed sixty years ago, when war news told, as now, of Prussian armaments. The sources of information were often of a very doubtful description in those days, and the Government received no better or safer intelligence than came by private hands until such time as the formal despatches of commissioners and Generals arrived; indeed, the Times announced the capitulation of Flushing two clear days before the news reached any other quarter in England. Sixty years ago the battles of Auerstadt and Jena were fought by Napoleon against Prussia, on Oct. 14. The Ecening Star of Oct. 18 observed that it was not yet known whether the campaign had commenced. On the 20th a report came that the Prussian Hussars had taken 800 of the enemy, and that the army was pasting for the hour of battle. The manifests of the King of Prussia was understood to be the strongest ever penned, and declared that the King would conquer or die. Next day the 800 became 3000, and another French failure was reported. Major Dakin arrived with despatches from the Prussian head-quarters, but no news became known. On the 23rd the report from the Continent was that the French were defeated, with a loss of 40,000 men. The 25th brought accounts of a French success, nothing decisive; and the Star thought it could confidently assert that there was no reason to be alarmed. Two days after a decided and very important victory was announced for the Prussians; Soult had been cut up on the 13th, and the French had lost 6000 killed and 14,000 prisoners. Lord Morpeth, however, had sent a report of a reverse, in which the Duke of Brunsvick was badly wounded, and the King had two horses shot under him. The Star did not understand, at the same time, that the Prussians segorious victory for Prussia. Murat was Jena will form an epoch in his

designed by a Chinese artist, and manufactured in China. It stands upon an elaborate carved wooden stand; the whole measuring upwards of 6 ft. Of course, the China challenge cup ranks among the important matches of the meeting, and the fact that it was to be shot for on Saturday might have been the means of leading many country competitors to induce their friends to be present. The value of the cup is £525, and it is presented by the volunteers in China for competition at Wimbledon by the home volunteers; £50 in specie is added by the National Rifle Association. The prize is competed for by ten efficient volunteers from each country, with new long Enfield rifles issued by the Government, through the association, or any rifle of bona fide long Enfield Government pattern, provided that when not of Government manufacture the barrel be stamped with the Government viewers' Birmingham or Tower mark; the distances being 200 or 500 yards, five shots at each distance. The prizes are divided as follow:—The vase and £25 for the first; the second, £15; and the third, £10; the cup to be held for the year by the Lord Lieutenant of the winning county. The cup and £25 was won by Stafford, Renfrew being second, and Warwick third.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

On Tuesday the first meeting of the annual congress of the Archeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was held at the Guildhall, which had been kindly placed at the disposal of the committee by the Corporation of the City. The Lord Mayor, who was attended by the other civic authorities in their robes of office, presided, and was supported by Marquis Camden, president of the society, Lord Talbot de Malahide, the Lord Bishop of Oxford, Sir John Lubbock, Sir John B. Boileau, Mr. A. J. B. Beresford Hope, M.P.; Mr. Tite, M.P.; Rev. M. Hill, Rev. J. Lee Warner, and many others interested in archæological research. The body of the hall was filled with a select audience of ladies and gentlemen. The Lord Mayor, in opening the proceedings, warmly welcomed the noble president of the institute and all who were seeking to extend its advantages and promote its welfare. The society, he said, had now attained its majority, having been established twenty-one years,



THE SEAT OF WAR IN BOHEMIA.

sanguinary battle on the 17th, in our favour. The battle had raged either from 5 a.m. to 3 p.m. or from 2 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. The Duke of Brunswick was killed. This intelligence was brought by a captain of one of the Ostend packets. On the 21st news came that Ney was killed, with 5000 French soldiers, and that we had won a battle with a loss of 3000 men. The large type appeared for the first time on the 22nd. The Duke of Wellington's aide-de-camp had arrived, displaying two of Napoleon's eagles from his carriage as he drove through the streets; "the Earl of Uxbridge at the head of the 1st Life Guards had penetrated within three yards of Bonaparte's person, and to the bottom of the platform on which the scoundrel stood." On the 23rd a jubilant line in italics preclaimed "Bonaparte is seconded in the thigh." We have become so thoroughly accustomed to our present rate of communication, and the generally trustworthy character of our intelligence, that we can scarcely conceive the possibility of waiting so many days for news of vital importance. We hear now important details of battles fought in the recesses of Bohemia in a fractional part of the time which it took in 1815 for the news of the Battle of Waterloo to reach our shores.—Pall Mall Gazette.

GENERAL KLAPKA has just returned to Paris from Bohemia, where he was with the Prussian army at the battle of Sadowa. He went to the Prussian camp with the object of persuading the Hungarian prisoners taken by the Prussians, and afterwards liberated, to induce their countrymen in the Austrian army to desert. His efforts were, however, unsuccessful.

WIMBLEDON PRIZES.

THE ANY RIFLE PRIZE OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THIS elegant and valuable prize, the original of which belongs to the Corporation of Norwich, and was lent, by consent of the Town Council of that city, to Elkington and Co., specially to be copied for the National Rifle Association, is manufactured by that firm with every taste and care possible. The jug and dish are both of silver, partially gilt; the dish measures upwards of 18 in. diameter, the jug is about 14 in. high, both forming a splendid trophy of art, and well worthy to be the prize of the best skill of the marksman.

THE CHINA VASE,

The vase, which is very colossal in character, is made of silvet,

during which time many of the noblest and most ancient churches, towers, and other edifices of antiquity in the provinces had been explored by its members. It had now returned to hold its congress in the parent city, and he assured all present that the Corporation would not be refuctant to co-operate with them in their endeavours to extend the reverence for the architecture of the past, and to raise their institute to a high point of efficiency and development. Marquis Camden, in the name of the society, returned his grateful thanks to the Lord Mayor for the warm welcome he had extended to himself and all others who had attended the first meeting of the congress. He regretted that engagements in other places had prevented his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was patron and hon, president of the institute, from honouring the congress with his presence; but he was sure that his Royal Highness wished that every success would follow their deliberations and researches. Mr. Tite, M.P., also addressed the meeting, and remarked in the course of his success would follow their deliberations and researches. Art. The, M.P., also addressed the meeting, and remarked in the course of his speech that it was often objected that the Archæological Institute and other societies established for similar purposes had no practical use. He believed that he could not find a more appropriate space than the Guildhall to show the utility of the study of ancient and medieval architecture; for, whereas Sir Christopher Wren had erected a plaster ceiling over that beautiful old structure, the design of the fine old roof which now adorned it was attributable mainly to be received as the lovery of the art of former periods of our history. of the fine old roof which now adorned it was attributable mainly to the researches of the lovers of the art of former periods of our history. Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., and the Bishop of Oxford also briefly addressed the congress; and, a vote of thanks having been accorded to the Lord Mayor, the majority of the assembly visited the crypt of the Guildhall, and also the library, where many of the old charters and MSS. of the Corporation were shown. Among these is an in-denture of which the renewal is in the British Museum, and to which is appended an autograph signature of Shakspeare.

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Later in the afternoon the congress adjourned to the Church of St.

Bartholomew, Smithfield, where a discourse on the architecture of
this interesting old edifice was delivered by Mr. Tite, M.P. The
party then proceeded to the Church of St. Helen, Bishopsgate,

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THE ANY RIFLE PRIZE OF THE ASSOCIATION.

from which a further progress was made to the hall of the Carpenters' Company, where portions of the old Roman wall adjacent were explored. In the evaning a soirée was given at the Deanery, Westminster, by the Very Rev. the Dean, at which the remains of the abbestial buildings, the college hall, and the Jerusalem Chamber were thrown open, and several of the muniments of the Dean and Chapter exhibited.

In connection with the visit of the institute to Westminster, the accompanying Engraving of relics in and around the Abbey will be interesting.

com the cloisters through a fine Gothic portal, the ornaments of it were very beautifully carved. The room itself is of octagonal was originally very lofty, with a pillar rising from the centre of support the roof, and having arches springing from the walls of and meeting at the top of the pillar. If we suppose this room to decorated with painted glass windows the effect must have been but the central pillar was multiated when the alterations took it which the whole building was disguised by a new room, and leries were made to contain the public records. The commons of

near the Abbey, is memorable for being the place where Henry IV, died and thought that a prophecy was fulfilled. Shakpseare, in the play of "King Henry IV," makes the dying Monarch ask:— THE JERUSALEM CHAMBER,

Doth any name particular belong
Unto the lodging where I first did swoon?
Warwick. 'Tis called Jernsalem, my noble Lord.
King Heary. Land be to Reaven! Even there my life must end.
It hath been prophesied to me many years

CHALLENGE TROPEY CONTENDED FOR AT WINBLEDON.



TROUND WESTMINSTER ARBEY



DIMING HALL

JERUSALEM CHAMBER



Depermany.

CHAPTER · HOUSE.

CHAPEL OF STRLASE



THE CRYPT OF THE CHAPTER HOUSE

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.-NO. 287. MORIBUND.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 287.

MORIBUND.

We shall have but little to say this week about the proceedings of the House of Commons. In truth, our work for the year is nearly done, for the beginning of the end is come. Exhausted by the struggle on the Reform Bill, the House is now in a state of lassitude, and is slowly but surely fainting away. Many of the members—Irish and Scotch especially—have, with or without pairs, taken their departure, and will not again appear unless some fresh casus belli should suddenly turn up, and Colonel Taylor and Mr. Brand should be obliged to blow their trumpets and once more summon their hosts to battle. Of such an emergency, though, there is no sign; on the contrary, all the signs point the other way. We have already begin the annual destruction of bills. Some half-dozen innocents were slaughtered on Monday night—some of them fine healthy children, promising a few weeks ago to grow rapidly to maturity—and every night we may expect the saughtering to go on. There are some seventy bills on the paper, but of these certainly not more than twenty will pass; the rest will be rathlessly strangled: and the authorities say that the House will have cleared off its work and be up and away about the 10th of August. All parties now wish anxiously for this consummation. The Government, of course; for whilst they are cruising in these latitudes, however carefully they may steer, there must be danger of collision; and the Opposition are quite as anxious to depart, for they have made up their minds not to fight, and, this being so, why should they sit here staring at fruit they cannot touch? The dreadful part of the punishment of the Peri, of whom Moore sugs, was the sight of the good things within Paradise which she could not reach. They have been banished from the sunny heights of power and place, and, whatever they may say, this is a severe punishment. Why, then, should they be tantalised by the daily sight of those who, having fought and won, are now revelling in the glory and

OSBORNE AND IRISH LAW APPOINTMENTS.

OSBORNE AND IRISH LAW APPOINTMENTS.

Meanwhile, we shall have some jets of life—some flickerings of animation—as Parliament is not to be killed nor to die apoplectically, but naturally and gradually. Indeed, it is not to die at all, but to sink for a time into a state of suspended animation. On Monday we had a spirt of life—two spirts, we may say, coming from those two galvanic batteries, if we may so call them, which, when placed on the Opposition benches, are always highly charged—Mr. Bernal Osborne and Sir Robert Peel; yes, very highly charged when in opposition; but who, when they are not in opposition, and especially when they are placed on the Treasury bench, are not so highly charged. Mr. Bernal Osborne had a fling at the new Government touching their law appointments in Ireland, which, to Mr. Osborne, are not satisfactory. The virtuous, patriotic mind of the hon. charged. Mr. Bernal Osborne had a fing at the new Government touching their law appointments in Ireland, which, to Mr. Osborne, are not satisfactory. The virtuous, patriotic mind of the hongentleman is excessively shocked by these appointments. They had been discussed at the clubs, and generally much talked about; by the Opposition, universally condemned; and it was generally felt that the Government ought to be brought to book. And this task of bringing to book her Majesty's Government naturally felt to the hon. member for Nottingham. We say naturally, for this duty required certain qualifications which he alone possesses: courage, or, as we might say with more propriety, audacity, for example; and also a certain not common, but very useful, insensibility and hardness; an absence of those finer feelings with which most gentlemen are plagued, compelling them to shrink from personal questions, especially when the discussion of such questions involves necessary allusions to the personal infirmities of opponents. Mr. Osborne is one of those men who are not troubled by these fine feelings; or, as perhaps we ought to say, he has a strength of will which, when patriotism requires it and the interests of the country are at stake, can put down and overcome these feelings. And so, on the very first occasion after these questionable appointments had been made, Mr. Osborne stepped to the front, boldly, to denounce them.

THE CASE.

these questionable appointments had been made, Mr. Osborne stepped to the front, boldly, to denounce them.

THE CASE.

But let us state the case; for we dare to say many of our readers are ignorant of it: and we will not state it exactly as Mr. Osborne did, but as it has come to us on the wings of rumour-premising that we believe that the rumour is exceptionally truthful. The change of Government necessarily leads to the dethronement in Ireland, as in England, of the Lord Chancellor. Now, to this splendid prize Mr. Whiteside has long been looking with long and hopeful gaze, and expecting pretty confidently that, when the fulness of time should comethat time so long looked for and so long delayed—this prize would certainly be awarded to him, for who so deserving of it, not to say qualified to take it, as he? Has he not for many years supported his party in the House with a zeal unprecedented, spoken in season and out of season, never flagging, never wearying, but always ready—ay, ready, early or late, at mid-day or midnight, sacrificing his practice, regardless of his health, to support his party or bully their opponents? Surely, when this prize should have to be awarded it must fall to him. And we have reason to believe that this also has all along been the idea of the Conservative leaders, and that it had come to be considered as much a settled thing that Whiteside would, when the Conservatives should come in, be Lord Chancellor of Ireland as that Disraeli would be leader of the House of Commons; and, further, that when the revolution occurred, the Conservative Chiefs were quite prepared to offer this great prize to their faithful and zealous ally. Why, then, was it not done? Well, rumour says that, just as it was about to be done, there came from the Irish Bar and the judicial and political circles at Dublin an ominous growl of disapproval; and "Whiteside! no, not Whiteside, but Brewster is of no religious party. And so the feed arose; and for a time all Dublin was in a flame. Well, it may be a seen that Mr.

and to vex it by no factious opposition; but this is not the cause of faction or of party, but the common cause of every man in Britain.

If Mr. Osborne were to be silent when such things are going on, the very stones in the street might be expected to call out. So here he is, mounted, and with spear in rest to do battle for the right. And, now, how did he succeed? for that is the question which it is more immediately our daty to answer. very stones in the street might be expected to can out. So here he is, mounted, and with spear in rest to do battle for the right. And, now, how did he succeed? for that is the question which it is more immediately our duty to answer. Well, we are bound to say, not very well. To use a common phrase here, he was not up to the mark. He made but little impression upon the House; he called forth but little applause and no laughter, or next to none, and could rouse up nobody to reply. The law officers of Ireland were not present; they are not yet re-elected. Lord Naas, the Irish Secretary, was in his place, but he moved not; whilst the leader of the House sat, impassive and undisturbed, staring at the ground, notwithstanding the thrusts of Mr. Osborne's lance had been directed specially at him. And so, when Mr. Osborne sat down, the House quietly glided away from Ireland and its law appointments into quite another subject. True, at the end of the evening, the leader of the House just noticed the attack of Mr. Osborne; but he did it in the most offhand way, as though it was hardly worth attention; and thus the matter ended. This assault of the honourable member for Nottingham was, then, a failure; yes, a failure. But, after all, was it entirely his fault? Perhaps not. You see the enemy would not show, but cowered behiad what Carlyle calls an excellent impassivity, impregnable, expugnable, like the people at Charleston behind intrenchments of cotton bags. And here, in leaving this subject, we may say that this appears to be Disraeli's policy—the policy of silence, impassivity, or, say, simulated impassivity—talking as little as possible; and, when he is obliged to speak, adopting a sort of easy indifference or else a light chaffing tone; and, perhaps, for this Session no better policy could be adopted; but if he should thus intrenchments, and perhaps this Session, for while we are writing Mr. Horsman is raising a battery for the very speedily shelled out of his intrenchments, and perhaps this Session, for while we are

THE WAY TO OFFICE.

tery for the very purpose of shelling the Government out of their silence—on foreign affairs.

THE WAY TO OFFICE.

When Mr. Osborne had exhausted his galvanic battery, Sir Robert Peel rose to discharge his. He, too, had a grievance—not, however, with the present Government, but with the last—his quondam friends and colleagues. In the Palmerston Ministry he, as our readers will remember, was Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; and, on the death of Lord Palmerston, resigned or was dismissed, nobody knows which; perhaps resigned to anticipate dismissed. But, however that may have been, he was Chief Secretary for Ireland and is not now. Perhaps that is the real grievance, and that which he brought before the House only a cloak. For such things are, and have been, and will be to the end of time. Sir Robert's grievance, real or simulated, was that her Majesty's late Government was getting too liberal towards the Roman Catholics, and that they had to this end advised her Majesty to grant a charter to the Queen's University in Ireland without having, according to promise, first consulted the House of Commons. Into this vexed question we need not enter. Suffice it to say that there was certainly an appearance of a grievance, and that Sir Robert Peel, in an unusually calm and argumentative speech, certainly did make out a primal facie case, and succeeded in getting up a debate and in calling up a number of notable persons—to wit, Mr. Lowe, who, strangely enough, supported Sir Robert, and Sir Hugh Cairns, the new Irish Attorney-General, and Sir George Grey, and Mr. Gladstone, whom he designated the right hon, member for South Lancashire, which was very strange to our ears. Yes! Mr. Gladstone is this now, and no more. But, to return to Sir Robert. All this must have been abundantly pleasant and statisfactory to the Right Hon. Baronet as he laid his head upon his pillow that night; for he would naturally reflect, "These fellows cannot keep in long—not beyond next March or April, at the furthest; and, meanwhil

BERKELEY AND THE BALLOT.

Berkeley and the Ballot.

On Tuesday we had Mr. Berkeley's annual motion on the ballot, and once more we saw Mr. Berkeley at the table delivering his annual harangue. But, oh! how changed he is since first we saw him there. Then he was comparatively a young man, and, though always lame as now, and obliged to balance himself upon one foot, he was sound in health, strong, vigorous, and lively, and ever and anon made the House cheer his happy hits and laugh uproariously at his humorous descriptions and his witty illustrations; but now he is old and feeble, his shafts are pointless, his descriptions laboured, and his wit saltless. For an hour and a half he spoke, and scarcely evoked a cheer, and only once or twice did he provoke laughter. It was to us, who remember Mr. Berkeley twenty years ago, a melancholy sight. There was, though, this consolation. Here we certainly had a sincere, perhaps we might say a fanatical, man; but fanaticism is only an exaggeration of sincerity, and sincerity is, even in an exaggerated form, always to be honoured. There is, though, we are bound to say, another reason why the speaker on this occasion was not effective, besides that of his infirmities. This ballot question itself has waned considerably in the House during the last few years. It no longer excites enthusiasm as it once did; the numbers in its favour are decreasing, and those who support it are not for the most part sincere. On the contrary, they look upon it and the agitators of it as bores, and if they were to vote by ballot upon this question of ballot, the number of its supporters, instead of being 110, would scarcely amount to 50. "How are we to account for this?" Well, we suspect that as men become upon it and the agrestors of it as fores, and it they were to vote by ballot upon this question of ballot, the number of its supporters, instead of being 110, would scarcely amount to 50. "How are we to account for this?" Well, we suspect that as men become wealthier they become more independent, and consequently more indifferent to the ballot. There is, we believe, a time coming when our constituencies, proud of their independence, will scorn secret voting as much as they anxiously desired it some years ago. We used to look upon the ballot as a sort of Morison's pill that would cure all the evils of the State. We now begin to consider it as a quack medicine, likely to do more harm than good.

MR. EDWIN CANTON, F.R.C.S.—The past and present students of Charing-cross Hospital have just united to show their respect and affection for the above distinguished member of the medical profession by presenting him with a testimonial, on his retirement from the office of lecturer on anatomy. The testimonial consisted of one of Ross's best microscopes, about 18 in. high, bearing a suitable inscription; and it was presented at a very crowded meeting of students. Dr. Canton, in returning thanks for the gift, dwelt, amongst other things, upon the vast improvement in the manners, habits, and dress of medical students since the days when they were described by the late Albert Smith.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, JULY 16.
HOUSE OF LORDS.
The Dogs Bill was read a second time, on the motion of the Marquis of

The Dogs Bill was read a second time, on the motion of the Earquis of CLARRICARDE.

On the motion for the second reading of the Transubstantiation, &c., Declaration Abolition Bill,

The Earl of DeInry observed that if there were anything felt to be offensive in the manner of taking this oath by Roman Catholics he was not unwilling to provide a remedy. He believed, however, that the subject would be best dealt with in a general measure relating to all oaths of the kind; and, as a Royal Commission had been issued to inquire into the whole question, he hoped the bill would not be forced on on the present expansion.

coasion. After some observations from the Marquis of Clanricarde, Earl Russell, and Earl Granville, the order of the day was discharged and the bill

ithdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At the reassembling of the House of Commons most of the members of the overnment, whose acceptance of office had involved the vacation of their ats, took the caths and resumed their seats on their re-election.

sears, took the caths and resumed that sears on their re-election.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr. LAING gave notice that on a future evening he should ask the Foreign Searchary to give an assurance that no step would be taken for intervention by this country in the war on the Continent without Parliament having a previous opportunity of expressing an opinion as to the policy of such intervention.

vention.

Mr. HORBMAN gave notice that, on going into Committee of Supply on
Friday, he should call attention to Continental affairs and put a question to
Lord Stanley with reference to any communications that had passed between
her Majesty's Government and that of France on the subject.

STATE OF THE MONEY MARKET.

Mr. WATKIN gave notice that on Friday he should move an address for a Royal Commission to inquire into the late severe and protracted pressure in the money market, the continuance of the Bank rate of discount at 10 per cent for so long a period, and into the laws which govern the currency.

cent for so long a period, and into the laws which govern the currency.

THE; REFORM BILLS.

Mr. GLADSTONK gave notice that on Thursday he should move that the orders for proceeding with the bills relating to the representation of the people be read for the purpose of being discharged.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated, in reply to Mr. Crawford, that, considering the magnitude of the question, her Msjesty's Government were not prepared with a measure on the law of bankruptcy this Session, but they hoped to introduce one at the earliest possible moment next Session. Lord NAAS stated, in answer to an inquiry of Mr. Osborne, that it was not the intention of Ministers to proceed with the Irish Land Tenure Bill of the late Government.

the late Government.

the late Government.

BRECH-LOADERS.—IRISH LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, a discussion on the subject of furnishing the Army with breech-loading rifles was raised by Captain VIVIAN, in the course of which

Mr. J. B. SMITH mentioned the fact that, as far back as the Session of 1851, when the War Office was represented in the Commons by Mr. Fox Maule, now Earl of Dalhousie, he had called the attention of the Government to the introduction of the needle-rifle into the Prussian army, but the matter was pooh-poohed by that right hon. gentleman with the remark that he knew all about it!

Mr. OSBORNE was quite content to leave the question in the hands of

matter was poon-pooned by that right hon, gentieman with the remark that he knew all about it!

Mr. OSBORNE was quite content to leave the question in the hands of General Peel, in whom he placed the greatest confidence; indeed, he believed that no better appointments had been made by the new Government than those of the gallant General and the Under-Secretary for War, Lord Longford. But there were other appointments which had not given him the same satisfaction, and especially those connected with the administration of justice in Ireland. The hon, member called upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to supplement his late speech at Aylesbury with an explanation of the policy which was to be pursued in Ireland, particularly with regard to the means by which it was intended to check the emigration from that country.

The attempt to "draw" the Chancellor of the Exchequer was not successful. Mr. Disraeli remained silent; but

General PREL, reverting to the question of breech-loaders, stated what measures the Government had adopted for the supply of the Army, and said that before the end of the financial year 200,000 Enfelds will have been converted.

said that decore the end of the manner year 200,000 kanelos will have been converted.

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND.

Sir R. PEEL called attention to the circumstances under which a new or supplemental charter had been granted to the Queen's University in Ireland, and complained that the charter had received the sign manual of the Crown and had the great seal affixed to it in spite of an assurance from Mr. Gladstone early in the Session that no change should be made in the constitution of the University until an opportunity had been afforded to the House of challenging the policy of the Government relating thereto. The right hon, gentleman charged the late Government with having been influenced in the course they had pursued by a desire to conciliate the support of the Irish Roman Cathelic members.

Sir G. GREY held that nothing could be more clear and unambiguous than the manner in which the intention of the Governments both of Lord Palmerston and Earl Russell had been stated, and denied that their conduct was liable to be construed into a violation of a pledge given by Mr. Gladstone.

Gladstone.

A lengthened discussion followed, in the course of which many hon. members gave expression to their opinions on the conduct of the late Government in the matter.

TUESDAY, JULY 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved the second reading of the Tenure of Land (Ireland) No. 2 Bill, and, in doing so, expressed regret at the agitation which prevalled in Ireland and at the extreme views and theories which existed on the land question. If Parliament set its face resolutely against these wild doctrines the mischievous agitation, deprived of the hope of success, would die out; and there was every reason to believe that sound opinions would prevail, and the agriculture of the country be placed on a greatly-improved footing.

The Earl of DERBY said he saw no objection to the principle of the bill, and would not oppose the second reading, but he could not pledge himself to the details.

the details.

The bill was then read a second time.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM moved the second reading of the National Gallery Enlargement Bill, which Lord HARDINGE recommended should be delayed, as the whole question was shortly to come before the House of Commons. The suggestion was concurred in by Lord HOUGHTON; but, after a brief discussion, the motion for the second reading was agreed to.

The order of the day for the second reading of the Public Companies Bill was discharged, and the bill withdrawn.

A motion of the Marquis of CLANRICARDE to go into Committee on the Doga Bill was opposed by Lord CRANWORTH; and, on a division, was negatived by 37 to 14. The bill was therefore lost.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons had a morning sitting, at which the Thames Navigation Bill was committed, and progress made to the sixty-second clause inclusive. On the reassembling of the House in the evening, Lord J. Manners took his seat for Leicestershire, and Sir S. Northcote for North

Devon.

METROPOLITAN WORKHOUSE INFIRMARIES.

Mr. G. HARDY, replying to an inquiry of Mr. Fawcett, stated that the Government did not contemplate introducing any general measure relating to the infirmaries in the metropolitan workhouses during the present Session, by reason of the want of time to consider the question fully. The condition of these places, however, should receive immediate attention, and the powers vested in the Four-Law Board, which had hitherto been in abeyance, should be put in force, they being adequate to dealing with the existing evils. He should also ask the House to grant to the Commissioners the power of altering and enlarging the sick wards where necessary, without the consent of the guardians; and early in the next Session he hoped to be able to bring in a general measure relating to the workhouses of the to be at to bring in a ge metropolis.

to be able to bring in a general measure relating to the workhouses of the metropolis.

MARINE TRAINING-SHIPS.

Mr. GRAVES moved an address to the Queen for a Royal Commission to inquire into the present condition of the seamen of the mercantile marine, with the view of ascertaining whether, within the last twenty years, the supply of British seamen had or had not fallenoff either in point of numbers or of efficiency, and, if in either a continuous decline should be apparent, then to ascertain further what were the causes which have led to such decline, and whether any remedy could be suggested. The hon. member quoted statistics to show that since the year 1835 there had been both a proportionate decline in the number and a deterioration in the quality of the seamen employed in the merchant service, and that the increase in the number of foreigners salling in English ships had been vastly in excess of that in native sallors, compared with the growth in the amount of tonnage. For this state of things he suggested that the true remedy would be the establishment of training-ships at various harbours round the coast, and a revival of the old system of apprenticeship.

The motion was seconded by Mr. LIDDELL and opposed by Mr. HENLEY, who objected to all Government interference as having a tendency to land us in the French system, which was essentially a bad one.

Sir S. NORTHOOTE having promised that the subject should receive his careful consideration during the recess, Mr. GRAVES consented to withdraw his motion.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. BERKELEY next brought on his annual ballot motion in the following form:—"That, having regard to the failure of all direct legislation against corrupt practices at Parliamentary elections, it is expedient to make experiment of the system of taking the votes at such elections anonymously, according to the laws now in force in other parts of her Majesty's dominions. After some preliminary remarks, in which he drew a contrast between the theoretical and practical condition of the electoral body and enumerated all the great names enrolled among the supporters of the ballot, Mr. Berkeley proceeded to deal with the various objections urged against it, such as its being unmanly, un-English, unsuccessful, and the like. With regard to the first two he remarked that it was practised at the military and other clubs; and, to show that it was successful, he referred at some length to the experience of America, France, Belgium, and our Australian colonies, contending that in the last especially it had worked admirably. To the argument that, as the franchise was a trust, it ought to be exercised openly, he replied that, however a man voted, some portion of the electors would deem him a false trustee; and, to illustrate the present demoralised state of the electoral system and the inefficiency of the present law, he related several instances of intimidation at the recent election at Guildford and of evictions at Totnes and Frome. After some remarks on Mr. Mill's tergiversations, he concluded a discursive speech by expressing a strong conviction that the time for the adoption of the ballot was not far distant.

Mr. Mowbbay replied on behalf of the Government; and, in objecting to the motion, exposed the fallacy of the analogy of the clubs, and asserted that public opinion was every year more and more opposed to the ballot. In regard to its success, he showed that as a mode of securing secrecy it had failed in France and America, and would prove inoperative here; and, repeating the often used asymment that the f

mbject of female suffrage. Mr. WALPOLE offered no objection, and the return was ordered.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. GLADSTONE moved the second reading of his Church Rates Bill, saying that he understood the Government did not object to the principle of the bill and would not oppose the second reading, on condition that no further progress was attempted this Session.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the Government did not approve of the principle of the bill, but would not object to the second reading, provided the bill was carried no further this Session.

A long discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. NEATE moved an amendment to the effect that no settlement of the question would be satisfactory which does not provide for the maintenance of the fabric of the church. The debate was continued until a quarter to six o'clock, when, by standing order, it was suspended.

THURSDAY, JULY 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TREATIES OF EXTRADITION.

The LORD CHANCELLOR introduced a bill upon this subject, observing that the treaty with France had already expired; but the English and French Governments had consulted together and agreed to extend the time for six months more, which would expire on the 4th of December next. The only treaties which England had were with France, the United States, and Denmark. The previous Secretary for Foreign Affairs had prepared a bill upon the subject, but had been unable to carry it out. The bill he now introduced to their Lordships was founded substantially upon that bill.

After a few words from Lord Clarendon, the bill was read a first time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE LATE JAMAICA INQUIRY.

Mr. MILL asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether it was intended to take any steps by way of prosecution against the persons who had been engaged in suppressing the late insurrection in Jamaica.

Mr. DISRAELI, after objecting to the manner in which the question had been put, replied substantially to the effect that no intention was at present entertained of taking any steps in the matter.

ENFIELD RIFLES.

Mr. SAUNDERSON asked whether the attention of her Majesty's Government had been directed to the question of substituting cast-steel barrels, bored in the solid, for the iron barrels employed in the manufacture of the Enfield rifle.

Mr. WALPOLE read a reply to the question from General Peel, to the effect that experiments were in progress which might result in the substitution of steel for cast-iron barrels.

THE IRISH LORD CHANCELLOR.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Sir P. O'Brien, said that Lord Derby had, in 1858, offered the office of Lord Chancellor of Ireland to Mr. Blackburne; but that gentleman, who then held the office of Lord Justice of Appeal, declined exchanging a permanent office for an office that was not permanent.

was not permanent.

THE PROPOSED MEETING IN HYDE PARK.

In reply to Mr. P. TAYLOR,
Mr. WALPOLE said the notice issued by Sir R. Mayne, prohibiting the proposed meeting in Hyde Park on Monday evening, was much by his (Mr. Walpole's) authority. He thought he need not point off that the consequences of such a large assemblage of men might be, and probably would be, riotous or disorderly conduct ("No, no," from the Liberals, and cheers from the Conservatives). Certainly it would lead to conduct which would interfere with the recreation of quiet and orderly people.

Sir G. Grey said that before he left office he had given instructions that no meeting of the kind should be allowed to be held in Hyde Park.

In reply to Mr. J. S. Mill, Mr. WALPOLE said the notice he had issued was certainly grounded on the fact that the meeting was to be held in Hyde Park.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

The House then went into Committee, and
Lord CRANBOURNE, in bringing forward the Indian Budget, said the
gross revenue for the year 1865-6 was £47,041,000, and the gross expenditure
£47,020,000. There was an increase in the land and forest revenue, and
in the excise, but a falling off in the salt tax. The customs revenue and
the opium traffic had increased nearly a million and a quarter. With
respect to the expenditure, the enormous cost of collection should be
looked to. The charge for the army was £13,468,000. The expenditure were
for the work had been £5,352,000. The law and police expenditure were
about the usual average. The estimated for 1866-7 showed a deficit of
£72,800. The opium tax was estimated at £8,500,000; but that was exceptionally high; and, as other sources of revenue decreased rather than increased, it was probable the deficit might be larger. The expenditure on
public works and railways had been large; but it had proved a great success,
as the works were highly productive and were rapidly repaying their
cost, although none of the great lines were fully complete. Education was
progressing. Irrigation works and railways were advancing, the Ganges
Canal had been more adaped for its great purpose, and there was evidence of
general prosperity. He had been too short in office to speak with decision
as to Indian policy, but it was quite in his power to say the Government
policy was "peace and further works" and an avoidance of the old aggresvive system of annexation.

Mr. LAING thought the House was indebted to Lord Cranbourne for the
interesting statement he had made, but the details of Indian finance were
not very interesting to the English people, though very important to the
English Government. On the whole, he considered that the system inaugurated since the change in the position of India had worked well, and he
ordially approved of the words "peace and public works" being inscribed on

English Government. On the whole, he considered that the system inaugurated since the change in the position of India had worked well, and he cordially approved of the words "peace and public works" being inscribed on the front of the Ministerial programme.

After a lengthened discussion the usual formal vote was proposed and

agreed to,
The Thames Navigation Bill passed through Committee

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE BILL AND THE REDISTRI-BUTION OF SEATS BILL.

On the motion of Mr. Gladstone, the order for these bills was discharged.

MUNIFICENT GIFT TO THE LIFE-BOAT CAUSE.—The honorary treasurer of the Manchester branch of the National Life boat Institution, Robert Whitworth, Esq., has just received from an anonymous donor (who wishes to be known only as "H. W.") the sum of £1000 to be devoted to the philanthropic objects of the National Life-boat Institution. In accordance with the wish of the giver, this large donation will be expended partly in providing a new life-boat, transporting-carriage, and boathouse at Lyme Regis, and partly in furnishing a new boat for Lianddwyn, on the coast of Carnarvon. The former boat will be named the William Woodcock, after a friend of the donor. In both the above cases the new boats are intended to replace old ones whic make been the means in years past of saving many lives. The number of 1f trats built by the Manchester branch within the last three years will thus be raised to seven.

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RECONSTRUCTION OF THE NAVY.

INVENTORS must be a sore trouble to the official mind, and, we feel sure, are heartily execrated in the British atéliers nationaux, as Punch once designated our public departments. No sooner has one scheme for improved shipbuilding, cannonmaking, or rifle-fabricating been tried, tested, reported upon, and either pooh-poohed or adopted, and thousands--perhaps millions - of pounds spent in carrying it out, than some other pestilent fellow of an inventor comes forward with another plan, which must also be tried, tested, and reported upon, and, it may be, adopted also; thus rendering useless all that had previously been done. All this must be exceedingly trying to the minds of gentlemen in public offices, who are generally supposed to have a decided weakness for a quiet, jog-trot, routine way of managing affairs, and to be actuated by a very strong dislike to new-fangled notions and novel ways of doing anything whatever.

We quite sympathise with the feelings of these gentlemen. Inventors are becoming something of a nuisance, with their proposals for turning the world upside down and revolutionising everything. And the worst of the matter is, that their schemes must be attended to, must be tried, tested, reported upon, and either adopted or shown to be unworthy of confidence. For instance, here have we been going on for some years past making admirable muzzle-loading Enfield rifles, fired by means of percussion-caps, when the performances of the Prussian needle-gun prove that muzzle-loaders and percussion-caps are all a mistake, and that we must set to work to convert our Enfields into breech-loaders with new contrivances for igniting the cartridge. We have spent enormous sums in making Armstrong guns of large calibre, which yet will perversely persist in bursting after firing comparatively few rounds; and the process of cannonmaking must, apparently, be reconsidered. Then, worst of all, no sooner have we succeeded, at an immense expenditure of thought, talk, labour, and money, in reconstructing our Navy on the armour-plating system, than those go-ahead fellows, the Yankees, send across the Atlantic the Miantonomoh to prove that our armour-plated ships are of no use, and that this one specimen of monitor could sink any ship in the Navy in five minutes; and that, too, without the slightest chance of even our finest vessels being able to do her the slightest

This Miantonomoh is a turret-ship, constructed upon the ame principle, modified in details, as that which Captain Cowper Coles has been pressing upon the attention of our Admiralty authorities for years past, but which has been persistently rejected, and for advocating which the gallant Captain has repeatedly been snubbed. Notwithstanding the assurances of Captain Coles to the contrary, and his undertaking to construct a turret-ship which should be fitted for seagoing purposes, the Admiralty have pronounced that class of vessel to be suitable only for coast defence, and not adapted for seagoing cruisers. And yet here, to confute this opinion, and put to shame the judgment of the Admiralty, has the Miantonomoh safely crossed the Atlantic, visited several ports in this country and in France, and gone on a voyage up the Baltic to St. Petersburg. The American frigate, or whatever she may be called, carries guns of enormous weight and power, is almost entirely submerged, consequently offering an exceedingly small target to aim at, and yet being, as her officers and crew declare, a tolerably comfortable craft to sail in. In short, she is pronounced to be an exceedingly formidable ship, quite a match for any three or four of our finest vessels, and entirely upsetting the theories of our Admiralty authorities.

Now this is precisely the sort of war-ship which Captain Coles has for years been offering to furnish for the British Navy, and which has been constantly declined. Will our Admiralty authorities be wiser now? Sir John Pakington was wont to boast that, while formerly at the head of naval affairs, he commenced the reconstruction of the British Navy by having the Warrior built. The Right Hon. Baronet is again in his old post, and seemingly has the same task of reconstructing the Navy before him. Will he, like his predecessors in office, remain wedded to old forms and official ideas, or will he take a hint from the Miantonomoh-the latest "Yankee notion" exhibited in Europe-and let Captain Coles have an opportunity of showing what he can do in constructing seagoing turret-ships; and that from the very keel upwards, and not in the peddling, cobbling fashion adopted in the Royal fovereign? We hope so; for this question of war-ships, as well as that of naval artillery, is of greater importance to us as a nation than even the possession of the best description of field-piece and the most efficient breech loading rifle. We may not be again called upon to contend in the field with the armies of other countries. Our insular position and a policy

of non-intervention in the affairs of other nations may perhaps protect us from that necessity. But we cannot maintain our place in the community of nations unless we are possessed of the best, the most efficient, and the most powerful engines of naval warfare. The task of providing these may be a troublesome one to officials; it must be an expensive one to the public; but it is imperative that it should be accomplished, at whatever expenditure of care, labour, and money, and by the sacrifice, if need be, of all personal and professional hobbies and predilections. Is Sir John Pakington capable of "rising to the height of this great argument," and of earning the right to boast, with greater truth than e r, that he is the reconstructor of the British Navy? We shall see.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

Her Majesty's absence from Windsor, with the exception of one day in August, will extend to the latter end of October.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES will go to Scotland about Aug. 14, and take up their residence at Abergeldie.

PRINCESS ALICE, second daughter of her Majesty, was safely delivered of princess, at Darmstadt, on the 11th inst.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE GRAND DUKE, heir to the throne of Russia, with Princess Dagmar of Denmark, is fixed for Oct. 15.

SIR E. BULWER LYTTON, Sir W. Jolliffe, and Lord Henniker have been aised to the Peerage. The new titles are Lord Lytton, Lord Hylton, and

THE PALACE CAVALLI, belonging to the Count de Chambord, in Venice, is at present offered for sale. It is one of the finest residences in the place.

FOR THE DERBY OF 1868 there are 263 entries, for the Oaks 221, and for the Leger 244.

the Leger 244.

THE LARGE SILVER MEDAL OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS has been presented to the Hon. C. G. Duffy for his lecture on Australia.

AN OFFICER OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY will be immediately attached, with the sanction of the King, to the head-quarters of the Prussian army.

COLOUR-SERGEANT M'CARTHY, who was recently convicted by court-martial of complicity in the Fenian conspiracy, and sentenced to death, has had the capital sentence commuted to penal servitude for life.

ANOTHER 600-POUNDER, which cost £2000, has burst at Shoeburyness at the eighth round.

the eighth round.

THE GREAT EASTERN started some days ago on her mission of laying the Atlantic Telegraph Cable, and up to noon on Thursday had run 712-9 miles, and paid out 811-14 miles of cable. All was going on well on board.

A GREAT REFORM MEETING was announced to be held in Hyde Park on Monday next, but Sir Richard Mayne has issued an official notification intimating that the assemblage will not be permitted.

MDME. RUDERSDORFF is said to be occupied in the composition of a

CAPTAIN SHORTLAND, commanding her Majesty's surveying steamer Hydra, and two seamen were lately captured by brigands at Maro, Sicily, but were released after a short detention and paying a small ransom.

GENERAL SIR HUGH ROSE is about to be elected to the Peerage.

AN EXPLOSION OF FIREDAMP took place in the Glebe Colliery, Fenton, North Staffordshire, on Wednesday, by which four men were killed, and a fifth so much injured that he is not expected to recover.

SEVERAL DEATHS FROM CHOLERA have occurred within the last day or two at Llanelly, and much alarm is felt in the town.

A DREADFUL Fire has taken place at Drammen, on the southern coast Norway. Three hundred houses were burnt down, rendering 6000 persons

NAVAL SAVINGS BANKS, for the deposits of the men and non-com-missioned officers in the Royal Navy and Marines, are about to be opened by the Admiralty under a recent Act of Parliament. Mr. PATTON, the Lord Advocate, has been defeated at Bridgewater by Mr. Vanderbyl. A petition against the return is, however, to be presented immediately. Mr. Patton is the only one of the new Ministers who has yet been unseated.

MR. LINDSLEY, a clergyman at Medina, U.S., who whipped his child to death because he would not say his prayers, has been released on 10,000 dols. ball, but is afraid to leave the gaol.

MISS EVANS, the authoress of "Felix Holt," is said to have received £4000 for her novel, and is now in Germany, "whither," say the papers, "she has gone to escape the temptation of reading and the annoyance of listening to criticisms on her new work."

PRINCE PAUL DE METTERNICH, Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor of Austria, and brother to the Ambassador at Paris, was wounded and taken prisoner at the late battle of Sadowa. A brother of Princess de Metternich was also killed in the same action.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH has resigned the Regius professorship of modern history at Oxford. The ground of his resignation is understood to be that his powers of labour have been somewhat impaired of late, and that he wishes to devote them exclusively for the present to a historical work which has in hand.

he has in nand.

ONE MILO MORGAN was arraigned, in Connecticut, U.S., on a charge that he did, "on the 15th of June, with force and arms, feloniously take one 'palpitating bosom,' the property of Emil Horner." Milo Morgan stole no young heart over which Emil Horner claims control. Emil Horner keeps a fancy store, and Milo Morgan stole from it a "plumper," an article used for artificially rounding out the female bust palpitating with it. Milo was fined saven dollars. artificially rounding fined seven dollars.

fined seven dollars.

THE PRIVILEGE OF FRANKING LETTERS is still allowed to members of the Congress of the United States. The Postmaster-General has just made a report, in which he states that the privilege is so abused as to lessen seriously the postal revenue and bring reproach upon the department. One senator allows his niece to write his name upon envelopes to frank then; patent agents send out their circulars under the frank of a member of Congress; a clerk in one of the departments farms the franks of three members.

THE PRUSSIAN ARMY.—Numerous applications having been made to the Prussian Embassy by English gentlemen wishing to enter the Prussian army or to be admitted as witnesses of the campaign, and by physicians, surgeons, and other medical men offering their services for the duration of the present war, the Prussian Embassy in London state:—1. That the entry of any foreign officer into the Prussian army can only take place by a special order of his Majesty the King. 2. That volunteers are only admitted by the commanders of the different corps of troops according to the wants and peculiar circumstances. 3. That following the army as witnesses is generally not permitted, but that exceptions for reporters, &c., may be made on application to the commanders-in-chief of the respective armies. 4. That the admission of physicians, surgeons, and medical men in general is a matter for the consideration of the general staff physician of the army, to whom applications are to be made at Berlin.

GREAT STRIKE OF IRONWORKERS.—In consequence of the notice given by the ironmasters of the North of a reduction of wages of 10 per cent, which notice expired on Monday, the puddlers and millmen at Gateshead, Darlington, Middlesborough, the Hartlepools, Jarrow, Walker, Corsett, and Witton Park, with a number of "off hand men," in all about 8000 persons, are on strike. A conference of delegates is being held at Glasgow, and, pending any resolution that may be agreed to by the delegates, the men on strike are passive. But, whatever determination the delegates may arrive at, the masters seem determined to adhere to their resolution to demand a reduction of 10 per cent, upon the wages, and, as stocks are tolerably large and there are few, if any, orders in the market, there is no inducement for them to take an opposite course. Notice has also been served on the men employed at the blast furnaces upon several of the large works in the North of a reduction of 10 per cent, to take effect on the 28th inst.

The Fenian Senate.—We have been favoured w

this continent, but for the interference of the Administration at Washington. To that interference and to the measures, as arbitrary as they were unexpected, taken by the executive and head of the State department to defeat our movement, we refer with reluctance. Our just anger at the treachery practised against us is tempered by sorrow that the name of American republicanism should be sullied by such truckling to the necessities of foreign despotism on the part of men invested with the highest trust in the commonwealth." Tolerably cool for dog days! But did it ever occur to these fellows who babble of "treachery" that the Congress is the warmaking power in this country, and not the "Fenian senate," with its head centres and chief organisers. When the time comes for war with Great Britain and Ireland the declaration will, doubtless, come from the Capitol at Washington, instead of the sky-parlour at No. 706, Broadway.—New York Times, July 2.

BREECH-LOADING RIFLES.

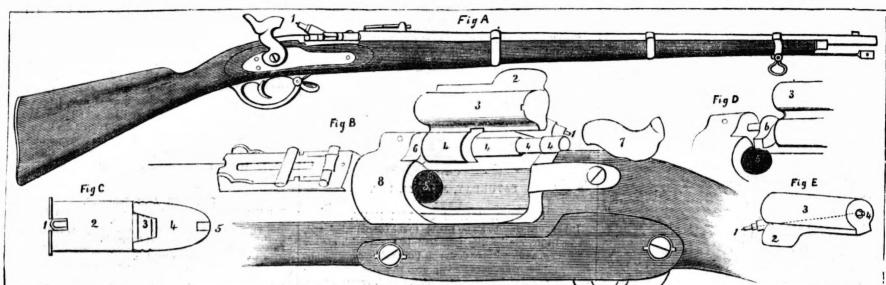


Fig. A.—The rifle ready to be discharged. The hammer falls on a pin in centre of nipple (marked 1), drives the pin through the centre of cylinder (3), as shown in fig. E; the pin then strikes on cap (1) inserted in cartridge, as shown in fig. C.—Fig. B shows the breech open for reception of cartridge. I is the pin in nipple, 2 is the catch that opens the breech; 3, the solid cylinder that fits in breech; 4 4 4, the hinge on which it opens; 5, orifice of barrel for inserting cartridge; 6, the catch that pulls out cartridge-case after explosion. This is shown in fig. D, 7, head of hammer; 8, a strong band outside barrel that holds end of red that hinge works on. The cartridge has a brase case, that is left in chamber of gun, after explosion.—Fig C is section of cartridge. I. The percussion-cap; 2. Powder; 2 is a piece of clay inserted in hollow of ball to cause expansion; 4. Barrel, 5. Piece of word inserted in conical end of ball to steady flight,—Fig. D.—3. The same as in fig. B, 10 to; 5. Ditto; 5. Ditto; 5 is the catch or claw that pulls forward to steady flight,—Fig. D.—3. The same as in fig. B.—10 to; 5 is the catch or claw that pulls forward to steady flight,—Fig. D.—3. The same as in fig. B.—10 to; 5 is the catch or claw that pulls forward to steady flight,—Fig. D.—3. The same as in fig. B.—10 to same as in fig. B.—10

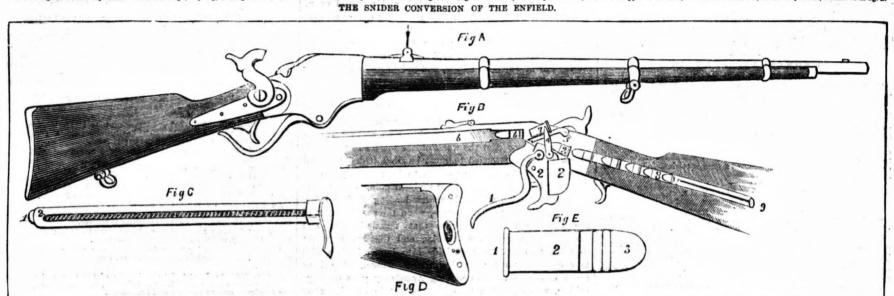


Fig. A.—The rife ready to be discharged. The hammer falls on a small wedge, that strikes on detonating powder in rim of cartridge, marked 1 in fig. E.—Fig. D shows end of butt of rife, with the hole for dropping in cartridge.—Fig. C is a case containing as pring that is inserted into end of butt as shown in fig. D. 1 is a nob at the end of spring that pushes cartridge up stock of gun (marked 8 in fig. B). 2 is a slit in tube to allow spring to work up and down.—Fig. E is the cartridge inclosed in copper (5), lift is the rod (5) that guides it; the rod (3) carries with it the copper case of explosed cartridge (7), and cartridge-care is brought out of the gun at the breach by the little blade or catch, marked 6, that catches against the rim of the rife.

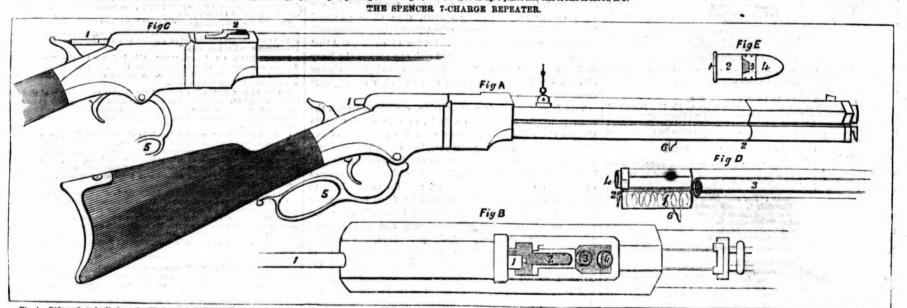


Fig. A.—Rither ready to be discharged. The hammer is projected on to rod marked 1; that strikes on cartridge charged with detonating powder, and produces explosion; 5. Lever-handle that shifts the cartridge; 6. Spring catch that works up and down back of breech that up cartridge into piace; 2, where bearing supported and the produces explosion; 5. Lever-handle that shifts the cartridge; 6. Spring catch that works up and down back of breech that lifts up cartridge from lower barrel (3) on to the level of top barrel (4); the cartridge is then pushed into upper barrel by rod 1. The cartridge, as shown in fig. B, marked 3; the sides of the tray are shown above the breech.—Fig. D.—1. Upper portion of the way back by the lever (3), which, being pulled forward, allows the bottom of the brecht-ray to enabling the cartridge to drop into it; 3. Lower part of under barrel into which the cartridge is inserted, with a slit down it to allow the spring-bordel 1. Hollow of belief 1; 4. Barrel proper; 6. Catch down back of barrel proves; 6. The cartridge is contained by the spring-bordel 1. Barrel proper; 6. Catch down back of barrel proves; 6. The barrel proper; 6. Catch down back of barrel proves; 6. The barrel proper; 6. Catch down back of barrel proves the cartridge down barrel (3).—

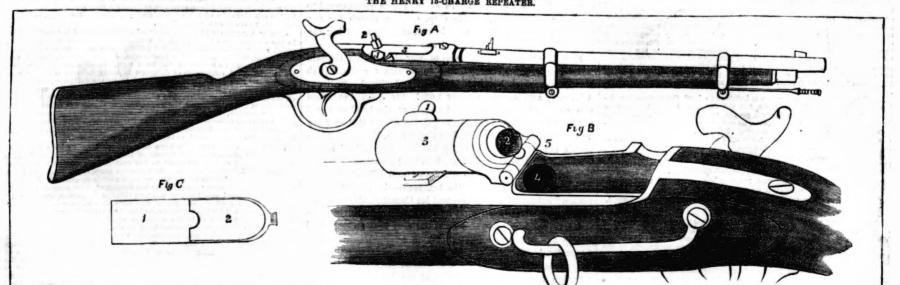
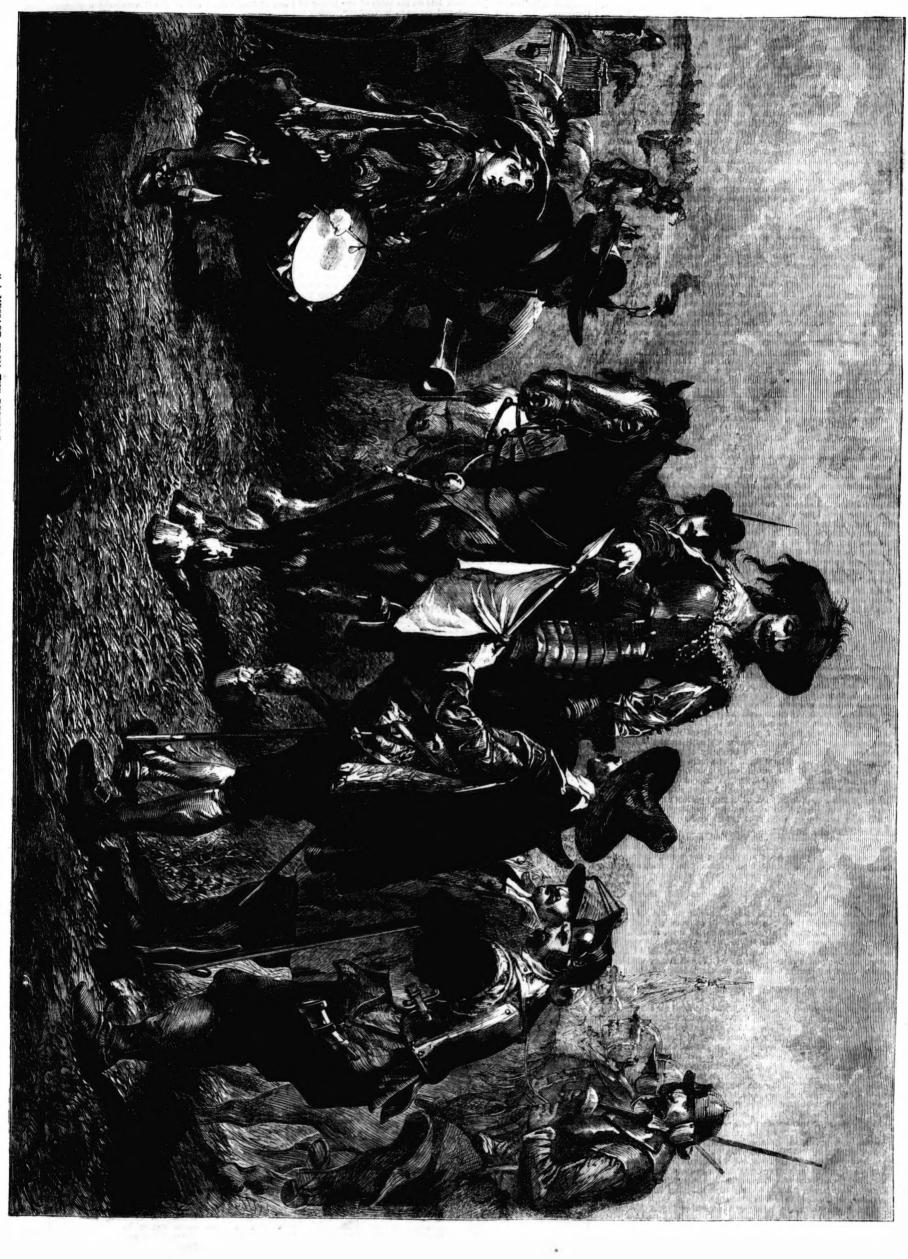


Fig. A.—1. Catch to open breech; 2. Nipple for cap; 3. Chamber fitted into breech.—Fig. B.—1. Underpart of catch that opens the breech; 2. Orifice for inserting cartridges into chamber (bullet towards you); 3. Hollow chamber that fits into breech 4. Orifice of barrel into which charge passes.—Fig. C.—Cartridge. 1. The powder; 2. Ball.

THE MONT STORM.





THE PRINCE OF WALES AT WIMBLEDON.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT WIMBLEDON.

THE Prince of Wales paid a visit to the camp at Wimbledon, on Friday week, the 13th inst. His Royal Highness arrived at half-past two o'clock, lunched with Lord Elcho, Lord Spencer, and a small party of ladies and gentlemen at the Cottage, and then, mounting the front seat of a waggonette by the side of Lord Spencer, went to look at the shooting and to take part in it. The Prince and the party in the waggonette alighted at the firing-point of the Swiss carton targets, 800-yards range, where Captain Ross and other rifemen were shooting at target F. The first shot after the Prince joined the party was fired by Lord Spencer, who made a centre. The Prince missed the target, as first-rate shots will sometimes do. The Swiss cardon targets, 800-yards range, where Captain Ross then proved himself a bad courtier by making a bull's-eye. The Prince with his third shot made an excellent centre, that just escaped being a bull's-eye too; whereupon certain of the bystanders, too obtrusively loyal, clapped their hands. As a popular actor among the crowd ventured to observe, they would have hissed the Prince's failures had they been consistent. Before quitting this range the party took a few more shots; and Captain Ross once missed the target, a feat which he—wonderful marksman as he is—can manage to perform now and then, with no Prince standing by. Lord Spencer chen led to the way to the 200-yards range of pool targets, where Captain Banting and other crack shots were trying the different breech-loaders. The highly important competition with rifles made on the breech-loading principle had commenced the same day, and had been watched with great interest by Captain Templer and the other riflemen prominently concerned in the furtherance of a most desirable object—the production of a good military breech-loader. The three rifles principally put upon their trial were all Americans, one being the Spencer breech-loader, which, as a short carbine, was used with deadly effect by General Sherman's cava

BREECH-LOADING SMALL-ARMS.

THE SNIDER RIFLE.

THE SNIDER RIFLE.

It is now so universally admitted that our soldiers should be armed with breech-loading rifles with as little delay as possible that the only question left to be determined is the particular form of breech-loader which should be adopted. This question, apparently so simple, is really one of very great difficulty; and, if no alteration were made in the armament of our soldiers till a perfect arm was discovered, they would have to wait long indeed before they got a different arm from the one now in use.

The Danish war, in 1864, first drew attention to the Prussian needle gun, and Lord De Grey, who was then Secretary of State for War, was so impressed with the necessity of giving our army a weapon which should at least equal the needle-gun that he immediately took steps to find out a really good arm. The trade in general were invited to compete for the honour of discovering the best mode of converting the present Enfield rifle into a breechloader, it being considered that, till a more perfect arm could be discovered, it would be better to make use of our large store of muzzle-loaders by converting them into breech-loaders than to let them become absolutely useless.

The result of this competition was that a large number of converted Enfields were submitted to the Ordnance Select Committee.

become absolutely useless.

The result of this competition was that a large number of converted Enfields were submitted to the Ordance Select Committee at Woolwich for trial. After eliminating the worst, the six most likely patterns were reserved for further trial; and, after long and patient trials, the preference was eventually given to Snider's; and, by the 1st of next April, the Government hope to have 150 000 Enfields converted into breech-loaders on Snider's principle. This rifle, it is said, will really be a first-rate weapon, infinitely superior to the needle-gun, and very different from the weapon which was rejected by the American Government, after considerable investigation. The original arm presented by Mr. Snider has been much improved upon by Colonel Dixon, the superintendent of the Small-Arms Department, and the ammunition invented by Colonel Boxer, enables the gun to shoot very much better than the old Enfield. By next April, therefore, our soldiers will be armed with a weapon loading at the breech and making much better practice than the present arm. It is not intended to convert any but new arms, and the manufacture of muzzle-loading rifles has been discontinued for some time.

The new cartridge, to be used with the converted Enfield, contains its own ignition in the shape of a direct central detonation at the base; in outward appearance, in fact, it differs little from the ordinary central-fire sporting cartridge, except that, instead of a pasteboard tube, the charge is contained in a roll of thin sheet-brass, which is not merely a perfect protection against damp, but on discharge, by becoming slightly unrolled, entirely adapts itself to the chamber, so as to effectually preclude any escape of gas. In addition to this, both the cartridge and bullet possess other important specialities, without attempting to describe which we may mention that it is the general opinion, although it seems rather paradoxical, that the merit of the proposed conversion is due more to Colonel

that it is the general opinion, although it seems rather pe that he is the general opinion, authorize it seems rather paradoxical, that the merit of the proposed conversion is due more to Colonel Boxer's cartridge and bullet than to the breech-loading appliance of Messrs. Snider and Co. Taken by itself, perhaps, no single part of this cartridge is absolutely new, but it is in the successful and harmonious combination of these different details that Colonel Boxer monious combination of these different details that Colonel Boxer has displayed an amount of practical ingenuity that entitles his cartridge to rank almost as an original invention; for each of these details when brought out and tested separately had hitherto proved a failure as adapted for military purposes.

The Prussians estimate the extreme rate of fire of their needle-

The Prussians estimate the extreme rate of their heading gun at from six to eight shots per minute. With the Snider Enfield as many as fitteen shots have been fired in a minute.

The hirst delivery of the new breech-loaders for the Army is due at the War Office on the 4th of August. The instalment is small, being only one hundred. The issue will, however, soon average

The Birmingham Small-Arms Company have placed the full resources of their factory at the services of the Government, the company confining itself to the work of converting Enfields into

breech-loaders. A supplementary estimate of the sums required to provide for the estimated excess of the Army expenditure for the year ending March 31, 1867, beyond the ordinary grants for the year 1866-7, for the conversion of the muzzle-loading small-arms into breech-loaders, has just been laid on the table of the House of of the into breech-loaders, has just been laid on the table of the flowers of Commons. The total amount and estimate is £245,000, which is distributed between votes 12 and 13 in the following proportions:— Vote 12. Manufacturing departments—Royal Laboratory and small-arms establishments, £140,000. Vote 13. Warlike stores, &c.— Small arms. £105,000. Total, £245,000.

THE SPENCER RIFLE.

Small arms. £105,000. Total, £240,000.

THE SPENCER RIFLE.

Next to the Snider system of conversion, which has gained the approval of the Government, the breech-loader concerning which inquiry is most generally made is the Spencer repeating rifle. Like the Snider and other modern inventions or adaptations of small-arms, the Spencer rifle had its origin in the late American war. To English ears the name of the "Spencer repeating rifle" is novel, but just before the close of the war the phrase "seven-shooter," meaning the same thing, was becoming familiar in this country. The rifle is a breech-loader and a repeater also, seven cartridges being deposited in a magazine in the butt of the gun and thrown forward in succession as desired, so that an ordinary marksman can discharge the seven shots in 12 or 15 seconds. As soon as the whole are expended, seven more charges can be inserted in infinitely less time than is required to load and cap an ordinary rifle. So rapid and destructive was the fire of the Federal cavalry regiments, to whom this weapon was principally supplied, that the Confederates had agrim joke about "the Michigan horse carrying rifles which they wound up every morning and shot with all day." The cartridges are copper-cased and well protected from explosion, but they necessarily add a good deal to the weight of the gun. The compensating advantage lies in being able to fire off seven successive shots quicker than any other gun could be loaded seven times. The same motion which brings up the fresh cartridge from the magazine ejects the shell remaining after the previous discharge. revious discharge.

THE HENRY RIFLE,

also the invention of an American, is a fifteen-shot repeater, and has two barrels. The underneath barrel holds the cartridges and the spring that pushes them down. The upper barrel is for the explosion. The peculiarities of construction of this arm will be understood on

The peculiarities of construction of this arm will be understood on reference to our Engraving.

A rife very similar in construction to the Henry repeater was invented by a Mr. Needham, of London, as shown in the great Exhibition of 1851. Mr. Needham sold his invention to an American, and it ultimately passed into the hands of the notorious Colonel Walker, who had a number of pieces fabricated on Mr. Needham's model, and used them in his filibustering expedition in Nicaragua. Is the Henry rifle of 1866 only the Needham rifle of 1851 with alterations and improvements? and improvements?

THE MONT STORM RIFLE

is a breech-loader, but fired with a percussion-cap on the nipple, in the same way as the Enfields at present in use. This last characteristic seems a serious objection to the Mont Storm piece, as the manufacture of caps is expensive, the trouble and weight they occasion to the soldier considerable, and the time occupied in capping is believed to involve a serious delay in firing—a consideration of vast importance in the construction of a military weapon, rapidity of fire being now the grand essential feature of such arms. One shot only is deposited in the Mont Storm rifle at a time. In this respect it is on a par with the Snider converted Enfield.

We are indebted to Professor Pepper, of the Polytechnic Institu-tion, for much valuable aid in getting up our drawings and descrip-tion of the Henry and Mont Storm rifles.

"A MESSAGE FROM THE REBELS."

"A MESSACE FROM THE REBELS."

This spirited picture is now in the exhibition of the Institute of Painters in Water Colour—an excellent exhibition, which we would remind our readers is still open. Mr. Charles Cattermole, the artist, bears an honoured name, and bears it well. The products of his dashing pencil are looked for whenever the new society opens its door, and he seldom fails to gratify his admirers, though an occasional grumbler will accuse him of a too sincere flattery of Mr. John Gilbert. Mr. Cattermole could hardly choose a better model, and it must not be forgotten that Mr. Gilbert's manner closely resembles that of the elder Cattermole, whose style Mr. Charles Cattermole has a very natural inclination for.

The story is admirably told. An envoy from the rebels, who, we may suppose from his somewhat downcast look, are getting slightly the worst of it, is holding a parley, under cover of a flag of truce, with the leader of the opposing army. The supporter of order looks anything but friendly disposed, as he sits his charger; and it is not unfair to conclude that, but for the all-powerful protection of the bit of white bunting, a short shrift and a long rope would be the speedy fate of its bearer. The usual incidents and personages to be found on a battle-field form the accessories, and the whole picture is well composed, and very happy in colour.

composed, and very happy in colour.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.—The proceedings at Wimbledon during the past week have been of an interesting character. The leading event on Saturday was the contest for the China challenge cup, presented by the volunteers in China for competition at Wimbledon, its value being £625, to which the association added £50 in specie. The conclusion of the Alexandra competition also gave an interest to the proceedings, and the attendance of the general public on the ground was larger than on any previous day. On Saturday the Belgian Chasseurs Eclaireurs left the ground, in order that they may arrive at home in time for their Tir National. The Garde Civique, however, remain a few days longer. The proceedings on Monday were only of secondary importance, the chief events were the completion of the second stage of the St. George's and the Alexandra prizes. Tuesday was an exciting day in the camp, and a crowd of visitors were on the ground. The two great events of the day were the conclusion of the competition for the second stage of the Queen's prize and the public schools match. Mr. Cameron, of the 6th Inverness, carried off the former, although he did but indifferently in the first stage, heing only two or three from the bottom of the list. This makes the second time the Queen's prize has been won by a member of a Scotch corps. Harrow, after a keen competition, won the Ashburton shield for the third time in succession, and a Harrow boy won the Spener cup, he having also taken it last year. On Wednesday, the principal event was the contest between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, which resulted in a victory for the former. A grand review of volunteers is to take place at Wimbledon on Saturday (to-day). The corps to be represented are almost exclusively metropolitan, Middlesex, and Surrey, the only exception being an Essex battalion. The total number of men will be upwards of 11,000.

CARTRIDGES FOR BREECH-LOADERS.—The officers of the Ordnance Select Committee of Woo wich Arsenal, on Monday, terminate de course of firing

an Essex battaion. The total number of men will be upwards of 11,000.

CARTRIDGES FOR BREECH-LOADERS,—The officers of the Ordnance Select
Committee of Woo wich Arsenal, on Monday, terminated a course of firing
to test the efficiency of Colonel Boxer's improved breech-loading cartridges.
They are adapted to as to suit and be perfectly applicable to the various
grooves of each kind of musket to be used in the service with a rifling of
'577 bore. The following have been used in the experiments with a satisfactory result:—The Enfield and naval rifles, the artillery carbine, and the
Languager rifle. An order has in consequence, been received from General 577 bore. The following have been used in the experiments with a satisfactory result:—The Enfield and naval rifee, the artillery carbine, and the Lancaster rifle. An order has, in consequence, been received from General Peel advising Colonel Boxer to prepare an unlimited amount of these cartridges for the general services of the army, as Colonel Dixon, Superintendent of the Royal Small-Arms Factories, has stated his intention of forwarding to the Military Store Department at Woolwich, with the joint assistance of the various contracts about to be issued, not fewer than 150,000 breech-loaders before the close of the present year. The strength of the cartridge-filling branch of the Royal Laboratory is consequently to be angmented by some 500 or 600 lads and girls. The department, during the Crimean War, was organised so as to be carried out on an extensive scale in the rlumstead marshes, and on a principle to exclude, with ordinary care, the possibility of much danger, each shop being separated by a high mound of earth, and a plentiful supply of water being ready at hand. The most complete arrangements are also made for the comfort of the young people employed. A spacious garden surrounds the little territory of shops, which produces an ample supply of vegetables at a cheap rate, and, together with a moderate provision of meat and bread, nader careful and well-directed supervision, mess dinners are provided at a few pence per head. In the evening the young people are conducted in gangs to their respective abodes, and are re-assembled similarly each morning with great care and punctuality.

PRUSSIA is sending 20,000 needle-guns to Italy, with the secret of the artridges. Thirty thousand more guns of the same sort are ordered.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

Before this Paper falls into the hands of some of your readers there will have been a discussion upon the Continental war in the flouse of Commons, got up by Mr. Laing and Mr. Horsman—the one wishing to get out of the Government a pledge of non-interference, the other desiring to ascertain whether the Government have ference, the other desiring to ascertain whether the Government have Austrian or Prussian proclivities.

Mr. Horsman thinks he has reason to believe that most of the members of the Cabinet—all, perhaps, save Lord Stanley—are decidedly in favour of Austria; and he has determined to bring the question under the notice of the Honse before the prorogation, that he may, if possible, elicit some declaration of faith from her Majesty's Ministers. Mr. Horsman has shown of late strong Conservative leanings; but on this question is he, as I believe, entirely sound? He, like most of us, does not approve of the gen mode—the manner in which this strange revolution has been effected; but, as it has been aschieved, he thinks that English sympathies ought to go with Prussia. In short, he thinks—as I confees I do—that it will be an immense advantage to England, Europe, and the world to have a strong, compact, powerful Protestant kingdom in the centredent of Creat.

Had measure motivery was outbe they had; Frederick centainly have had measure motivery as a predominant. No doubt, the specied but this motorial manner of the protestant of the think and utter their thoughts. Now, Prussia is essentially Protestant. Its Protestantism is not that of Mr. Whalley, nor even of Mr. Newlegate, which is rather the Protestantism of Titus Oates than the real thing. Their Protestantism is simply an enmity to Roman Popery; but true Protestantism is enmity to all Popery—that is to say, against livestification of freedom of thought. Now, Austria is essentially Protestant is simply an enmity to Roman Popery; but true protestantism is enmity to all Popery—that is to say, against livestification of freedom of t

place over the altar, but because the fumes of neighbouring gasworks and the mists of the Thames had coated it with a thick, fuliginous priming, through which no trace of the design could be discovered. It was determined some months since to have it cleaned, and it was accordingly sent to Mr. E. Façon Watson, in Piccadilly, where I saw it some six weeks or more ago, a brown, cracked, and peeling canvas. Last week I saw it cleaned and restored—as good as new again! The cleaning, moreover, has not been so indiscriminately vigorous as to take away paint as well as dirt, nor has the restoration been so more than complete as to make it an entirely new picture. The success of Mr. Watson is remarkable and encouraging for it proves that old paintings can be safely and sufficiently revived by judicious treatment. I must not forget to mention, too, that the new frame on which the canvas is stretched is so contrived as not to touch it anywhere, save at the extreme edge, by which means a fruitful cause of injury is avoided. The painting is a very fine one, and the good people of Brentford may be congratulated on its possession. Mr. Watson is engaged in painting a series of views on Lord Durham's lovely estates in the north of England; the landscapes, when finished, are to be inserted in the compartments of an old screen now undergoing repair and decoration under Mr. Watson's superintendence. The idea of the screen is a very happy one; it will enable such of his Lordship's visitors as may from age or illness be prevented from undertaking the rather serious task of going all over the extensive grounds to form some conception of the chief beauties of the scenery which their more active and fortunate fellow-guests will be sure to discuss.

A friend of mine, a smart fellow, whose knowledge of pictures

discuss.

A friend of mine, a smart fellow, whose knowledge of pictures and painters is very extensive—who, in fact, knows more of some pictures than did the artists to whom they are attributed—tells a story of the National Portrait Exhibition that I must repeat, it is so funny. One of the authentic and cotemporary portraits of an early English worthy, which has been highly spoken of by some of the critics, happened to come under his notice before it was hung. It had never been lined, although supposed to be so very ancient; but on the back of the canvas there was, in perfectly legible characters, the name of a well-known artists colourman in Holborn! So much for the value of the national portraits (?) at South Kensington.

Kensington.

I have within the last week been having another excursion into some of my favourite haunts in Herts and Bucks, and "making a note" of the progress and prospects of the crops. A marvellous change had come over the aspect of the fields during the preceding fortnight. The grain crops had everywhere increased in strength of straw, size of head, and produce-yielding promise generally. Wheat, barley, oats, peas, beans, had all participated in the improvement, and, in not a few fields, were fast ripening and becoming "yellow unto harvest." It is difficult to say whether wheat, barley, or oats are most advanced. I saw fields of all these cereals which had assumed a very decidedly golden tinge. It is to be hoped that the bounties of Nature in respect of the grain crops will not be sharified by the supineness of man, as I fear has been the case to a considerable extent in regard to hay, of which I observed many fine fields still ungathered, and even uncut. This, I observed many fine fields still ungathered, and even uncut. This, I take it, is very bad farming, and is not to be excused by the complaint everywhere made of the want of labourers. Farmers, like the conductors of other trades, should be alive to the signs of the Labour is now in much greater demand than it years ago, and of course commands higher prices. In the district I visited extensive railway works are in progress—the construction of

the new Midland line, for instance; and it stands to reason that stalwart men will not toil an unlimited number of hours a day on a farm for a pittance of ten or twelve shillings a week when they can, as navvies, obtain double that sum for a fixed number of hours' work in "railway building," to use a Yankeeism. Farmers must either induce labourers to stay with them by offering better wages and more considerate treatment, or employ machinery more extensively in agricultural processes. As an illustration of the loss "backward" farmers suffer from their dilatoriness, I may mention that on one field near St. Albans, the proprietor of which had wisely taken time by the forelock, and had his hay cut and gathered some weeks since, there is now an excellent second crop nearly ready for that on one field near St. Albans, the proprietor of which had wisely taken time by the forelock, and had his hay cut and gathered some weeks since, there is now an excellent second crop nearly ready for the scythe. Are this farmer's neighbours capable of taking a hint from this fact? My eye was again offended by the prevalence of thistles and other weeds in the corn-fields. What little I know of farming was learned in the north, where weeding is an important and carefully-attended-to process, but one that seems greatly neglected in certain districts of the south. Would that some English Burns would arise to sing of the "cornclips," and render weeding popular by making it poetical! Half the power of the soil in some quarters I have visited this year seems to be exhausted in the production of weeds, not crops. I have seen fields infinitely more "thistley" than even the "banks of Luggie" could have been in Burns's day. By-the-by, I stumbled at Watford upon a "rural fête," got up under the auspices of the local branch of the Odd Fellows' Association. This is the second affair of the kind at which I have "assisted" this summer, and, as many of your readers may never have had similar opportunities, perhaps a short description of such a gathering may be interesting. Well, a convenient field is selected, managers are appointed, a programme of sports is drawn up, a troupe of singers, dancers, acrobats—generally from places of amusement in the east end of London—is engaged, a booth with a stage is erected, and, for a charge of sixpence or a shilling each, the public are admitted to see and enjoy the performances. Sometimes pony and other races are added; generally the entertainments are solely of a semi-theatrical character. I have been present at both styles of thing. But, whatever be the details of arrangement, thousands of persons—old and young, male and female, gentle and simple—assemble and enjoy a pleasant day's holiday; and, though there is much that is feeble in the manner and a great deal that is absurd in the there is much that is feeble in the manner and a great deal that is absurd in the matter of the songs sung, the exertions of third or fourth rate performers are as heartily appreciated and as loudly applauded as are the most polished efforts of the most accomplished artistes in West End theatres and opera houses. You see, rustic taste is not very refined, because few opportunities are afforded of cultivating it; but rural enjoyment of what amusements of even a partially, superior order can be had, is genuine. Would the opportunities were greater and the character of the enterminments better! Such as they are, however, their influence is goodward. Of course, ample provision for bodily sustentation is afforded by refreshment-booths, where all descriptions of edibles and drinkables can be obtained. So far as I have observed, however, there is little of excess indulged in as respects either. Hearty jollity and hilarity are general, absolute drunkenness is rare.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER. THE MAGAZINES

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

The new number of the British Quarterly is a capital number, and deserves a warm welcome. The paper on Comte is one of the best articles of the order to which it belongs that I ever read. It has sufered from the printer in a few places, and some of us will sympathise with the vexation the author must feel when he comes to read it, if he does read it. The paper on "English and American Congregationalism" is also good, though I don't like it so well as the other; both contributions, however, are most informing and comprehensive. The sketch of the life and labours of Professor Boole is an instalment, and a good instalment, of what is due to the memory of that gentleman. Of course, we have the "Recent Financial Panic" and "Ireland." There is also an article about the author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," which contains some very intelligent criticism; but what this writer calls the lady's "irrecolution" I should call by a harder name. Suppose we say moral cowardice? The only productions of this author which give me unmixed pleasure are her romantic stories. As a novelist, I consider her a worldly-minded, accommodating, and yet sometimes acid writer, who has, probably, done quite as much harm as good. The story of "A Life for a Life" struck me as being one of the most pernicious books ever written. People do not want romantic excuses for being stupidly and wrongheadedly cruel; and yet the majority of the readers of that book would never reflect that it was morally false, just because the hero was no more a murderer than I am. There are only two alternatives upon the question of this something called by the critic in the British Quarterly indecision or irresolution—dulness or insincerity. "Indecision" is a queer word to apply when a storyteller makes a good man hill a mere brute in pure accident, following upon just anger; puts the good man under life-long remorse for having slain the bad man; makes a thickneaded old clergyman preach to him that he ought, by the law of God, to be hanged; and can

reader must not suppose that it is a dull review—it is serious, but it is bright, various, and readable in every page.

Number 28 of the Fortnightly Review must accept a very brief word of notice—not that it does not contain interesting matter. but that the matter is not of the kind which is readily noticeable in small compass. The articles on "Recruiting" and on "Count Bismarck" are of immediate interest; and I suppose it is my own fault that I cannot get excited over "Cicero and Clodius" in July. Mr. Beesly's writings are models of fairness, and yet even when he is saying the just thing, he says it with dogmatic touches that, in so heavy a writer, weaken the effect of what he says more than he would like to know—if he knew.

THE LATE WILLIAM HOOKHAM CARPENTER. F.S.A., OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—On Toesday was buried in Highgate Cemetery Mr. William Hookham Carpenter, who for more than twenty years has filled with great advantage to the public the post of keeper of the prints and engravings in the British museum. Mr. Carpenter, who was born in 1792, was the son of Mr. James Carpenter, a publisher in Old Bond-street, with whom he was associated in business for some years. On his marriage with Miss Geddes he established binnelf in Brook-street, and published Spence's "Anecdotes," edited by Mr. S. W. Singer; the "Discourse" of Sir William Jones, and Burnet's "Treatise on Composition." After this he rejoined his father, and, in 1844, published "Pictorial Notices: a memoir of Sir Authony Van Dyck, with a descriptive catalogue of the etchings executed by him, and a variety of interesting particulars relating to other artists employed by Charles I." It was in the following year Mr. Carpenter was appointed to the poet of keeper of the prints, &c., at the Museum, and in the past twenty years he has nearly doubled the number of the collection. Shortly after his appointment he procured the Coningham collection of early Italian drawings; then followed selections from Rembrandt's etchings (from the collections made by Baron Verstolk and the Earl of Aylesford), valuable Dutch drawings belonging to Baron Verstolk (1847), etchings and engravings belonging to Mr. Hawkins, several thousands of rare historical prints, and some tine drawings by the old masters, some of which had belonged to Sir Thomas Lawrence. In 1854 Mr. Carpenter was sent to Venice by the trustees of the Museum to report on a very curious volume of drawings by Jacobo Bellini; in 1855 the nation acquired it by purchase. Mr. Carpenter was elected a member of the Academy of Fine Aris at Amsterdam in 1847, F.S.A. in 1853, and served as a member of the council of the Society of Antiquaries in 1857-8. He was a trustee of the National Portrait Gallery, and was member of the committee for manag

Literature.

A Course of English Literature. By JAMES HANNAY, Author of "Satire and Satirists," "Essays from the Quarterly," &c. London: Tinsley Brothers.

Mr. Hannay does not "do himself justice" in these lectures to young men who have been deprived of advantages of culture, rather than of instruction, but who are quite able to enrich their minds to an extent that will make the world seem a tenfold world, provided that some competent authority puts into their hands the key of English literature and learning. Mr. Hannay might have made a very big book. But he has chosen "the nobler part—the path that leads to wiser ends." His object was the welfare of those who cannot afford big books; and who, at the beginning, can be best appealed to in suggestion only. In that he has succeeded admirably; and with self-abnegation, as remarkable as it is admirable in a confused age like this, when every modern Duke makes up a memoir of one thing or another utterly uninteresting, and thinks that poor students have nothing better to do than to buy it. Mr. Hannay's book is concentrated. He proposes English literature only, and tells how the essence, the salt, may be found. He might have done volumes and volumes, combined with specimens of English literature, and people might have run after the work; but that would have been defeating his whole scheme.

Mr. Hannay's great point is the insisting that literature follows history. This Mr. Hannay does not "do himself justice" in these lectures to

that would have been defeating his whole scheme.

Mr. Hannay's great point is the insisting that literature follows history. This, from which no thinking man can disagree, may be instanced, if not proved, by one fact. In the reaction from the possibly too rigid tone of the Protectorate, the highest history of the land had license, the proofs of which at the present time exist in the persons of some three or four Dukes—more or less Royal, more or less capitalised. At the same period, when Richard Cromwell was dabbling about parsnips at Cheshunt, and Charles II. was dallying with dogs and women in the Walk and the Mall, literature had a license which has, to a great extent, deprived it of modern existence. In the literature of that period the "select few" are suffered to keep their selectness to themselves. The Wars of the Roses produced no reading of any colour, and it is worth while following up history by observing that when England the Roses produced no reading of any colour, and it is worth while following up history by observing that when England was purchasing liberties from Henry VII., English literature was almost stagnant. But in the fight for independence two hundred years ago the Cavaliers divided their attentions between the camp and the bondoir. The King's Captain, or Colonel, or Knightar-Arms, was nobody unless he could break a heart playfully as well as he could smash a Puritan savagely—and such a man was, it must be confessed, looked upon as the more Conservative. He was also the original of Lord Malmesbury's modern politician, who can do without spelling provided he has got an idea or two. But those were the days of small ideas.

Mr. Hannay tempts us to fight, whilst all the time we are con-

the days of small ideas.

Mr. Hannay tempts us to fight, whilst all the time we are conscious of a white flag flying out in graceful recognition, and a drum beating to the "Conquering hero." This division of history into epochs, with their accompanying literature—and which tempts the reader to wonder whether history or literature would be Mr. Hannay's favourite theme—this settlement of history and literature into stages or "houses," as Sir Bernard Burke would say, adds greatly to the charm of literature, if fairly considered from that point of view which Mr. Hannay always keeps in sight.

The "Course of English Literature" is addressed to the vague class called "young men," whom we may assume to have missed their opportunities, if they ever had any. The intending student is to go through "a course of study fitted to make him acquainted

The "Course of English Literature" is addressed to the vague class called "young men," whom we may assume to have missed their opportunities, if they ever had any. The intending student is to go through "a course of study fitted to make him acquainted in a large and liberal sense with the literature of his native country." All that the voluntary teacher demands is that the student shall have a taste for reading and access to some "tolerable library, such as is now happily to be obtained in all our chief towns." The design of the book is well carried out. History being involved in literature, the historians get their word of comment, as a guide to a thoughtful reader, as well as the great writers of poetry and prose generally. Whilst many readers will find that they have carefully gone over the ground thus carefully marked out, they will be likely to think that they have taken literature in a larger sense. They will not be likely to keep within such bounds as are here pointed out. They will be certain to agree with their new "guide, philosopher, and friend" as to the untrustworthy character of Lord Macaulay as an historian and the great claims of the less palatable Sir Francis Palgrave. With Mr. Hannay, also, they will reserve themselves until maturity suggests a passionate admiration of Froude. But, taking literature apart from history, they will think that Mr. Hannay gives his admiration to big authors and big books, whilst small ones are scarcely ever patted on the back. Mr. Hannay is best on the best subjects. He is certainly not more than half way between right and wrong when he so runs away with "Paradise Lost" as to forget "Lycidas;" and few will agree with him about long poems of distinguished poets being their best. He will remember how Mr. George Warrington complimented Mr. Arthur Pendennis on his lyric efforts, and was at once asked if he alluded to the "Ariadne in Naxoe." No; Mr. Hannay's book itself is a proof of the goodness of condensed material. We may take the instance of Shelley, a poet and pro

old sense) mere "wit."

It would not take a man very long, in those hours of illeness which belong to us all, to skim, at least, along the pleasant brook of English literature here pointed out. It would give the reader far more delight and profit than he expects. And, if an original genius here and there should spring into eminence through the counsel thus afforded, he will some day look with gratitude upon the course of literary culture which, to use Thomas Moore's words, "first cradled his Fame."

A Painter's Camp. By PHILIP GILBERT HAMERTON. London Macmillan and Co.

An artist possessed of a thorough passion for art is one of the most delightful companions in the world. Those of us who cannot count one such among our friends are hardly aware of the charm such a fellowship can fling around the prose of common existence. There is a catholicity in a painter's tastes, and he has an intensity of percention and appreciation, born of his pursuits, which together make ception and appreciation, born of his pursuits, which together make him splendid company. He reads, and the faculty he possesses of imagining compositions enables him to realise all he reads, and, by realising, to appreciate the best; he has a knowledge of harmony, and, as a rule, is musical, there being some occult connection between the harmonies of colour and sound; he must, for his profession's sake know as mething of history of principles of architecture and the harmonies of colour and sound; he must, for his profession's sake, know something of history, of antiquities, of architecture, and a thousand other studies, one of which is enough for an ordinary man. He is, moreover, a poet; he loves a pipe, and he adores nature with a calm worship. He is egotistical, just a bit; but no man who is worth anything can help being that, inasmuch as egotism is one of the ingredients of originality and individuality.

In "A Painter's Camp" we have just such an artist as this for our contaction through the Highland of Section and Proceedings.

the ingredients of originality and individuality.

In "A Painter's Camp" we have just such an artist as this for our companion through the Highlands of Scotland and among the vine-yards of the Yonne. To be suce, we do not actually travel in those remote regions, but we do in the spirit, and enjoy the trip immensely, thanks to Mr. Hamerton's pen, which is to the full as graphic and vivid as his pencil. His mastery of language is truly remarkable. In the earlier portion of his book he gives us word-maps of sky and ground—verbal landscapes that are so powerful, and realise so perfectly the scenes he would describe, that it is with

regret we find, as he progresses, that he gives us less description, because, as he fancies, it fails to convey all he desires. We have nowhere met with any word-pictures as clear and full.

because, as he fancies, it fails to convey all he desires. We have nowhere met with any word-pictures as clear and full.

Nor is this picturesqueness of language the only charm of his book. He has a quiet vein of humour, as well as a considerable amount of thoughtful philosophy, while his observations are quaint and original. He has a word to say on all things, and says it well, whether the subject be the eating of frogs or a snow-drift on Ben Cruachan, the respectability of having a carriage or the splendour of a storm on Loch Awe, the proper shape of a life-boat or the form of a mist-wreath, the difference between English and French fried potatoes and the flavours of various burgundies or the variations of haze on a hillside, the changes of sunlight and the evening sky or the streaks of dead calm across a rippled lake. These few topics, strung together from memory, will show how wide is the field over which Mr. Hamerton travels. Yet he never ceases to interest, to amuse, or to teach. And teach he certainly does, and admirably; his brief notes, or scarce longer lectures, on matters connected with his art, are invaluable. He fairly worships his art, and to love her, as Steele says of a good woman, has been a liberal education, of which in this admirable book he confers the benefit on others so pleasantly and yet so honestly that they cannot choose but profit by it.

pleasantly and yet so honestly that they cannot theore by it.

It falls to the critic to read many books and to write much concerning them. As a consequence he sinks into a weary way of skimming hopelessly and carelessly, and then pouring out a few harmless platitudes. This is not as it should be, it is true; but it is too often the case, since critics, after all, are but human. Yet we will venture to say that no critic will handle Mr. Hamerton's book in this perfunctory manner. Hemsy differ from him; may find fault with him; but he will read him! For ourselves, we have read him through with thorough delight, reviving the pleasure we had in reading the first edition. The next edition we look forward to with yet more interest; for Mr. Hamerton implies a hope that we may have an illustrated one, and that is a promise very welcome to those who remember the exhibition of his works at the Sackville Gallery, in Piccadilly.

The Poetical Works of Robert Burns. Edited by the Rev. ROBERT ARIS WILLMOTT, London: Routledge and Sons.

ARIS WILLMOTT. London: Boutledge and Sons.

The works of the Scottish bard must be increasing in popularity in England pretty rapidly of late—that is, if we may judge by the number of editions published. We have had at least six or eight different issues of Burns's poems through our hands during the last twelve months, most of which have emanated from English publishing houses. Now, as we presume that these books sell, or they would not be published, we may fairly infer that a taste for Burns and a growing capacity to understand him must be making progress amongst us. This must be a matter of profit to the purchasers and readers of the works of the Scottish ploughman, as well as a source of satisfaction to his countrymen. The work before us is neatly got up and is in a very convenient form for the pocket. It has, however, undergone considerable emasculation, as was, perhaps, to be expected under reverend editorship. From "Death and Dr. Hornbook," for instance, one entire verse has been omitted; and other liberties of a like kind have been taken. The present is a new issue of the poems as edited by Mr. Willmott, and is said on the titlepage to contain "numerous additions;" but what "additions" could be made to the poems of Burns at this time of day which were not previous "omissious" we are at a loss to conceive. All the authentic productions of Burns have long been known, and we don't suppose that Mr. Willmott made discoveries which had escaped previous editors. The publishers, indeed, admit that the "additions" consist in omissions supplied; but the word is a misleading one, and we object entirely to a mere selection, however full, being passed off as the complete works of any author. Whenever omissions are made the fact should be plainly stated, and when these omissions are made the fact should be plainly stated, and when these omissions are made the fact should be printed in this fashion: "To a——, on seeing one on a lady's bonnet at church." A louse is certainly not an agreeable creature; but, as it is named The works of the Scottish bard must be increasing in popularity facilitate reference to the various poems. This was rendered all the more necessary, however, by the fact that the table of contents at the beginning of the volume is exceedingly imperfect.

the beginning of the volume is exceedingly imperfect.

Hood's Poems. Cheap Edition. In Parts. Edited by Samuel.

Lucas. London: Edward Moxon and Co.

If Mr. Catnach or Mr. Skelt had been sending us books instead of broadsheet ballads or dramatic characters, we should have attributed "Hood's Poems," in parts, to one or other of those gentlemen's presses. Nothing more ugly could be seen. In a word, the centre of the scene of ugliness is a heart, in playing card shape, with a skewer stuck through it, and drops of blood hanging from a bit of string. The artist who imagines this sketch from a perusal of "Hood's Poems" will scarcely succeed to the fame of the late Mr. Godfrey Sykes, who designed the Commill Magazine cover, although he has adopted the same colour. Even for a temporary purpose, such as the present, it is bad to have ungraceful objects before the eyes. Happily, the print of the real book itself is worthy of the great Moxon reputation; but still, good white paper is preferable to "toned." Of Hood's poems it need not be said—but the occasion is irresistible—that the world loves them. Thomas Hood has been dead twenty years; but he has not yet become so obsolete as to require the services of Mr. Samuel Lucas as editor. In editing there was nothing to be done, and the task was confided to Mr. Lucas. Perhaps the idea was that the "Song of the Shirt" would require modern comment on account of the sewing-machine.

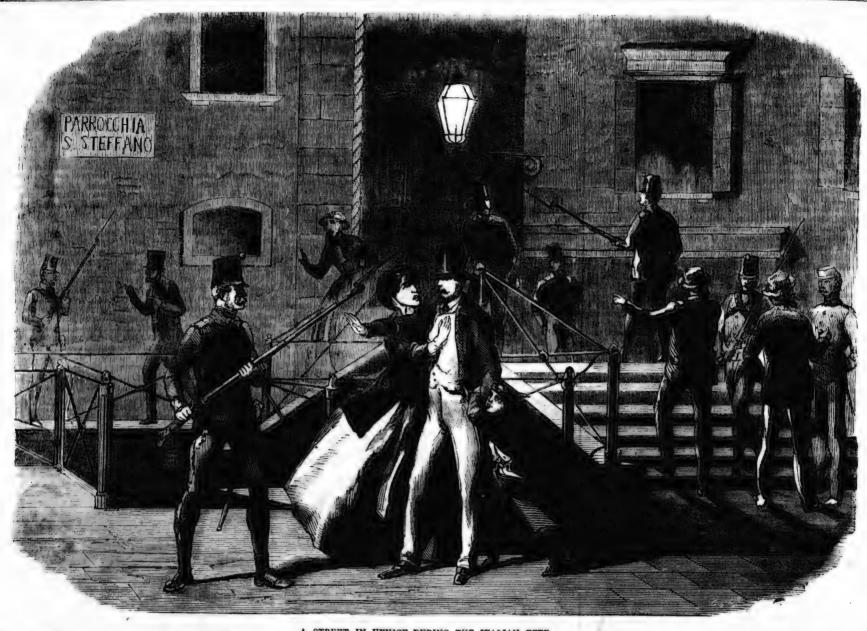
Monthly Volumes of Standard Novels. London: Smith. Elder.

Monthly Volumes of Standard Novels. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

and Co.

To their series of "Monthly Volumes of Standard Novels," of which forty volumes, each containing a complete story, have been issued, and which has now secured for itself a standard place in popular estimation, Messrs, Smith, Elder, and Co. have recently added the following works:—"Leonora; or, Fair and False," by the Hon. Mrs. Maberly; "Extremes," by E. W. Atkinson; "An Old Debt," to which the authoress still declines to put her name, though we learn, from the short preface to the present edition, that the writer is a lady—if that was a point about which there was previously any doubt; and "Uncle Crotty's Relations," by Herbert Glynn. As all these works have been before the public already in other forms, it is unnecessary to go into detailed criticism of their merits and demerits, for they are not devoid of faults. But as the merits, on the whole, greatly overbalance the demerits, we gladly recommend to the favourable notice of our readers these latest additions to the excellent series of "Monthly Volumes of Standard Novels," which are precisely the kind of book to put in these latest additions to the excellent series of "Monthly Volumes of Standard Novels," which are precisely the kind of book to put in one's pocket when lounging away a summer holiday by the seaside or elsewhere, when one wants only to be amused and not to be either greatly moved or to have to put forth any serious effort of thought. It is absurd to make a task of pleasure or a toil of relaxation. So we object to grave works for holiday-time—even the novel philosophic we ignore; and therefore at this season we betake ourselves to amusing, but not fatiguing, novels of society, such as those embraced in Messra. Smith and Elder's shirling series, and of which the late issues are not the least interesting. which the late issues are not the least interesting.

THE EMBANKMENT ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE THAMES,—The Metropolitan Board of Works having been informed by Mr. W. Wubster, the contractor for the southern embankment of the Thames, that the works were ready for the commencement of the river frontage opposite the Houses of Parliament, the board have distributed by any for the commencement of the tree trous groups are the restriction, the board have fixed Saturday, Aug. 28, for laying the "first William Tite, Esq., M.P., and the representative at the board for sea district, has been chosen to perform the ceremony. the Chels



A STREET IN VENICE DURING THE ITALIAN FETE.

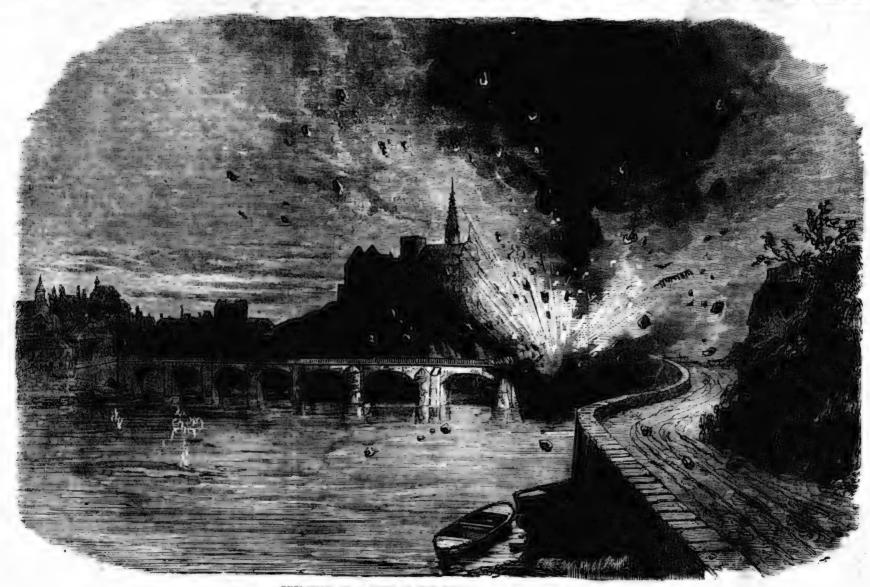
A STREET IN VENICE DURING THE ITALIAN FETE. It is scarcely surprising that, in the present condition of affairs, the Venetian Government should be more than usually determined to suppress any appearance of national spirit on the part of the people over whom the troops are ordered to exercise the strictest military surveillance. Our Engraving represents the entrance to one of the streets in Venice (Parrocchia San Steffano) on the evening of the fête of the Statute of Italy, on which anniversary of national independence, as

it was believed that certain patriotic cries or other demonstrations might escape, the Austrians were more than usually determined to repress even the slightest indication of public spirit.

EXPLOSION OF A MINE AT THE BRIDGE OF MEISSEN, IN SAXONY. THE progress of the Prussian army in Saxony has scarcely been delayed notwithstanding the efforts of the people in the districts

through which the troops were to pass to destroy the communications; for, although bridges have been destroyed, the Prussian troops were provided with pontoons, and had neglected none of those provisions and matériel of war for which the Royal army has become so celebrated, and which have been accumulating for years, during which the entire military system of Prussia has been gradually perfected.

In order to prevent the march of the battalions on their capital the Saxons burnt two arches of the railway bridge at Rieza, between



EXPLOSION OF A MINE AT THE BRIDGE OF MEISSEN, SAXONY.



PRINCE HUMBERT AT THE BATTLE OF CUSTOZZA.



REMOVAL, OF THE ROYAL TREASURES FROM DRESDEN ON THE APPROACH OF THE PRUSSIANS.

Dresden and Leipsic. This position was one of great importance in a strategic point of view, since the railway from Berlin there joins that of Leipsic and Dresden, and continues as far as Chemnitz. Rieza is, in fact, one of the great commercial centres of Saxony. In advancing along the Elbe the Prussians also found that the Saxons had destroyed the bridge at Meissen by means of springing a mine beneath it; and we are able to publish an Engraving of this event, which, however, caused little delay to the invaders, who quickly re-established the communication. Meissen itself is a place of no little importance, being only about fourteen miles from Dresden, on the left bank of the Elbe, which was crossed by the bridge in question, a structure of fine proportions. The position, together with the lofty houses of the town, make it conspicuous at a distance, and many of the public buildings are remarkable for their beauty and antiquity, especially the noble Gothic cathedral of the tenth century, with its splendid spire of open-work and beautiful painted glass, and the old tower of the Margraves, erected in the fifteenth century at a vast expense on a precipitous rock above the town, but now used as a porcelain factory, at which the Dresden china was first made. The Franciscan church, a large and magnificent edifice, is used as the custom-house, and there are several other churches and public buildings besides the cloth hall and the college. One of the most interesting sights in the place is the porcelain factory, which occupies that marvellous old tower, and which was established by one Bötticher, an alchemist, who, after wasting the gold of his patron, Augustus I. King of Poland and Elector of Saxony, in vain efforts to discover the philosopher's stone, at last more than compensated him by accidentally hitting on the art of making china. This is now the staple manufacture of the place, although various other industries are carried on there. The two Schlegels and Hahnemann, the homeopathist, were born at Meissen.

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PRINCE HUMBERT AT THE BATTLE OF CUSTOZZA

WE have already given some account of the great engagement at Custozza, and of the prominent part which was taken in the battle by the Italian Princes. Our Engraving this week represents Prince Humbert in the midst of his troops at the moment when they had formed in line to repel the charge of the Austrian Uhlans at the point of the bayonet.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

Or the two "novelties" announced by Mr. Gye at the beginning of the season, one—the Brothers Ricci's "Crispino e la Comare"—was produced on Saturday evening. This opera was performed some half dozen years ago at the St. James's Theatre, by a Neapolitan buffo company, and the name of the composer or composers had long been known to musicians and amateurs in connection with "Scarabeen known to musicians and amateurs in connection with "Scaramuccia"—pieces from which have often been given at concerts, though the work has never been played in London in its entirety. "Crispino e la Comare," if not absolutely new, must be new to the great majority of the public; and no one can have any idea of its merits who heard it at the St. James's Theatre and did not hear it on Saturday evening at the Royal Italian Opera. "Crispino" is the lightest of light operas. With a great deal more grace, and without a particle of vulgarity, the Brothers Ricci have no more pretension to the character of learned musicians than M. Offenbach of Bouffes Parisiens notoriety. The music of "Crispino" is a series of waltzes. Flotow's "Martha" was once described as "a polka in three acts;" and it would be no great exaggeration to say that "Crispino e la

character of learned musicians than M. Offenbach of Bouffes Parisiens notoriety. The music of "Crispino" is a series of waltzes. Flotow's "Martha" was once described as "a polka in three acts;" and it would be no great exaggeration to say that "Orispino e la Comare" is a waltz of which each "number" is made a separate piece. With the principal parts sustained by Mdlle. Adelina Patti and Signor Ronconi, the opera, in spite of the melting weather, could not fail to please the numerous audience who had assembled to hear it. It is announced for repetition on Tuesday, and will, no doubt, become one of the stock pieces of the Royal Italian Opera.

The regular subscription season having quietly come to an end, a series of after performances are now being given at Her Majesty's Theatre, to which the public are admitted without "the usual restrictions as to evening dress" being enforced. The operas are represented in precisely the same manner as during the subscription. season, while the prices of admission are materially lowered. On Saturday (to-night) "Semiramide" is to be given, with Mdlle. Titiens, Mdme. Trebelli-Bettini, and MM. Gassier, Foli, and Stagno in the chief characters. The last morning performance is fixed for Friday next (July 27), when "Les Huguenots" will be repeated. It may be added that the pit has been enlarged in the most liberal manner, something like the old proportion between the pit and the stalls having been re-established. Owing to the engagement of the principal members of Mr. Mapleson's company abroad, only a limited number of those final performances can take place.

The concert given on Wednesday morning by Mdlle. Adelina Patti, at the Royal Italian Opera, was precisely on the model of the anonymous one which took place at that theatre a few weeks ago and of the one given by Mdlle. Pauline Lucca a month or two ago at St. James's Hall. It had a novel character, however, in this respect—that it included a number of pieces more or less new to the English public, and one or two that had never

M. AUBER is writing another three-act opera for the Opéra Comique, to be produced there next Carnival.

be produced there next Carnival.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—In compliance with his customary rule of giving immediate illustration, at the Polytechnic Institution, to the newest topics of scientific interest, Professor Pepper has added to the programme of entertainment a most instructive lecture on the needle-gun and kindred inventions. He traces the history of hand guns in general, and more perticularly of breech-loading rifles, from their earliest introduction to the present time, distinguishing them into two great classes—first, the ordinary percussion-capped rifles; and, secondly, those fitted for self-igniting cartridges. To the second class belong the famous Prussian needle-gun, lent by the War Office to the institution, and Spencer's repeating-rifle—a weapon which, during the late American War, caused great haveo in the ranks of the gallant Southerners. Among various descriptions of newly-invented rifles, which are exhibited to ilinstrate the progress of the art of gunmaking, are Gilby's, Prince's, Mont Storm's, Westley Richards's, Sharp's, and Hazlewood's. The lecture, which is delivered in the genial, pleasant style invariably characteristic of Professor Pepper's discourses, abounds in valuable and weil-timed information, so lucidly arranged as to be easily understood.

EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF ANCIENT MASTERS AND DECEASED BRITISH ARTISTS.

DECEASED BRITISH ARTISTS.

If the ordinary annual exhibitions at the British Institution are not looked forward to with as much interest as the Royal Academy, no true lover of art fails to watch for the autumnal collection with which the gallery in Pall-mall opens after its show of modern pictures is closed. For several years the display has been a most interesting one; the student whose opportunities and means are limited has been blest within that period with the sight of many pictures, not to have seen which argues a tertible ignorance of England's treasures; while even the old-stager has not been sorry to refresh his memories of the great works of the past. Those noblemen, gentlemen, and ladies—upwards of fifty in number—who have placed their collections at the disposal of the directors of the institute are really public benefactors, and deserve public thanks. Their generosity is not fully appreciated until we place ourselves, individually, in their positions, and ask ourselves how reluctantly we should consent, not only to the risk and inevitable wear and tear consequent on these loans, but to the gap in our gallery, the blank space on the wall that would appeal so incessantly to the eye in place of the lost favourite.

This vear the directors have exhibited more than they usually do

should consequent on these loans, but to the gap in our gallery, the blank space on the wall that would appeal so incessantly to the eye in place of the lost favourite.

This year the directors have exhibited more than they usually do of the works of lately deceased painters. We shall be glad to see them persevere in so doing. A sprinkling of really modern works will make the gallery more generally attractive, and yet not a whit the less interesting or valuable. Indeed, the juxtaposition, in fair proportion, of the works of the ancient and modern schools—a thing not to be met with save in private collections—would educate the public and mingle with a knowledge of art history an understanding of the varieties of schools and systems.

The Reynoldses this year do not number among them any great works. The best known of them is the portrait of the "Duchess of Rutland" (118), which is familiar in the engraving. The head of "Cartouche" (170), "Hebe" (176), and "Lady Grewe" (179), are tolerably famous. The portrait of "Master Crewe as Henry VIII." (108), was evidently the source whence a modern artist of some repute borrowed his "Knave of Hearts," exhibited in the Academy a year or two ago. "A Child with a Black Hood" (110), is a good example of the master, and has apparently suffered little from the ravages of time, which Sir Joshua's works do not by any means invariably withstand. His "Kitty Fisher" (107), loses much of its charm from the bright green which the flesh has acquired; and the same fault is observable in the picture of "Lady Crewe and Lady Spencer" (126). The 'Sir Watkin Wynne" (92) is the worst specimen of Reynolds we remember to have seen—indeed, we could almost find it in our heart to doubt its authenticity.

Sir Peter Lely is represented by but two pictures, though he bears

have seen—indeed, we could almost find it in our heart to doubt its authenticity.

Sir Peter Lely is represented by but two pictures, though he bears part in a third with Vandevelde in a "Portrait of Van Tromp" (72).

Of Sir Thomas Lawrence we have but one example. There are some half dozen Romneys, but no particularly famous one; and a portrait of "Kneller" (130), by himself.

For specimens of the English school the visitor must look principally to the South Room, where he will find Hogarth's "Southwark Fair"—with much grotesque character in it; several fair specimens of Morland, when divorced from pigs and white horses; one or two Cromes and Nasmyths; and a fine Hamilton—a "Head of Medusa" (183). The Gainstoroughs are not very fine, nor are the Wilkies (183). The Gainsporoughs are not very fine, nor are the Wilkies very remarkable. Two familiar pictures of Newton's—scenes respectively from "The Vicar of Wakefield" (117) and "The Beggar's Opera". (123)—will probably be seen by people who have known them all their lives and yet were ignorant of the name of their Opera

painter.

Among the more modern Englishmen, we have an inferior work by Eastlake, "Byron's Dream" (121); a couple of Roberts's masterly views, one of "Baalbee" (177) and the other of "Rouen" (181); and a "Virgin and Child" (147), by Dyce, that might easily pass for an old master, not only on account of the composition and drawing, but of the colouring also, which is pure, lustrous, and harmonious.

monious.

Of the older masters of the foreign schools we have a very fair selection. Cuyp is not seen here to such advantage as at Dulwich, and we have met with finer Claudes; but Wouwermans (as the authorities of the British Institution elect to spell our old friend's name) is to be seen here in full force, Canaletto to advantage, and Ruysdael in some admirable examples.

One or two girl's heads, by Greuze, are pleasing, and more modern in tone than would be expected. "A Girl, with a Bouquet of Roses" (13), the property of Lady Stuart de Rothesay, seems to have suffered from bad usage er "restoration"—always a dangerous process in careless or inexperienced hands. The "restoration," for example, of a Poussin belonging to the Marquis of Westminster, here exhibited, has been very nearly the restoration of the picture to a piece of "primed" canvas.

Among the pictures which visitors to the gallery should not fail to study we may mention the following:—"A Knight and

hibited, has been very nearly the restoration of the picture to a piece of "primed" canvas.

Among the pictures which visitors to the gallery should not fail to study we may mention the following:—"A Knight and Attendants" (32), by Bordone, a fine work, full of rich colour, and marked by truthfulness and vigour; Giordano's "Philip II. Superintending the Building of the Escurial" (45), a work which, however, is so badly placed that the spectator cannot possibly see it as closely as he would like; a "Head of an Old Man" (51), by Denner; a portrait of "One of the Aldobrandini" (66), by Masaccio, which is, in our opinion, one of the finest works in the gallery, being painted with a lifelike veracity that throws the Reynoldses, Lelys, and Romneys into the shade; a portrait by Vylert (86); "Isabella de Valois" (90), by Sir A. More; and Janet's "Francis I." (113), which does not lend a countenance to the reported jollity of that Monarch.

"A Landscape and Figures" (150), by Wisson, should not be overlooked; and Vandyke's "Mistress Carr" (111) is worth a visit. There is also a good Rembrandt (102), and a very faded and slight one (75); and Raphaels world-famous "Holy Family" (88)—or a copy of it—will be seen on the walls. There is also a portrait of "A Lady" (61) by Rubens, which should be searched for; and a picture of "Fowls" (79), by Hondekoeter, which is an excellent example of his work.

We would suggest that in future the managers of the exhibition should arrange their pictures according to periods and schools, which would greatly assist the spectator and be of value to the student. It is, perhaps, too much to expect that they will omit the long list of governors and life governors, &c., which occupies so much space in the catalogue; but they might devote a page or so to a table of the names of the painters exhibited, arranged chronologically, with half a dozen words in shape of memoir. In these days we are educating, and should still more strive to educate, the mass of the people in a knowledge of art, and the p useful to their visitors. We are not, therefore, asking too much of the directors of the British Institute in entreating them another year, if not to omit the glorificatory list of governors, at least to add to them a summary of the masters whose works they exhibit. By so doing they would render their catalogues valuable as books of reference, and so ensure their being taken care of.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The intense heat of the last week or two, and rumours of the presence of cholera amongst us give an unusual interest to the bulletin of the Registrar-General. The rate of mortality in the metropolis for some time past has exceeded the average; and the return now published, for the week ending July 14, shows an increase in deaths over the previous week of 248—the numbers being respectively 1292 and 1840. The deaths in the metropolis from cholera in the last three weeks have been 6, 14, and 33; but of the latter nearly one half are stated to have been chilerate diarrhom, or summer cholera, and only 17 of the severe type. The annual rates of mortality last week for thirteen of the principal cities and to was were per 1000—Dublin, 15; Birmingham, 19; Hull, 22; Balterd, 23; Glasgow and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 24; Edinburgh, 25; London and Sheffield, 25; Bristol, 27; Manchester, 32; Leeds, 33; and Liverpool, 41. These figures exhibit some startling comparisons—as, for instance, Julkin 16 and Laverpool 41 per 1000 of the inhabitants. In Liverpool, of the 383 deaths returned last week 19 were attributed to cholera.

THE PROPOSED GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

THE PROPOSED GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

HE semi-official Norddeutsche Allgemeine publishes the following interesting statement relating to the proposed German Parliament:—

Among the first bills the Government intend to lay before the Diet will be, as we are informed, the electoral law for the German Parliament, as it is the decided intention of the Cabinet to hasten the convocation of that Assembly as much as possible. The Parliament will probably meet immediately after the close of the Prussian Diet, and, as it is believed, if not by the end of August, at any rate in September. The elections to the Parliament are expected to take place towards the middle of August. In any case, it may be assumed that the Imperial electoral law for 1849 will form the basis of the bill, and we therefore reprint that measure for the information of our readers.

readers.

The principal clauses follow:—
Sec. 1. Every German of unblemished character who has passed his twenty-fifth year is an elector.

2. The following are excluded from voting:—Persons under guardianship; persons in a state of bankruptcy pending the legal proceedings therewith connected; persons receiving assistance from public or communal revenues, or who have received such during the year preceding the election.

4. Whoever buys votes, sells his own vote, votes more than once at the same election, or generally employs illegal means to influence the election, shall be deprived of right to vote for a period varying from four to twelve years.

same election, or generally employs illegal means to influence the election, shall be derived of right to vote for a period varying from four to twelve years.

5. Every German voter fully, twenty five years old, who has belonged to a German State for at least three years, is eligile as a candidate to the Parliament. Political offences, the punishment for which has been suffered or remitted, do not exclude from election.

6. Persons holding a public office do not require leave of absence to enter upon their Parliamentary duties.

7. In every State, electoral districts shall be formed of 100,000 persons, upon the basis of the last census.

9. Smaller States, with a population of at least 50,000, shall form an electoral district. States whose population does not amount to 50,000 shall be united to form a district.

10. The electoral districts shall be subdivided for the reception of votes.

11. A voter must have his fixed residence in the district where he votes. No person can vote in more than one district. The quarters of soldiers and military men are to be considered as domicile, and entitled to a vote if not changed for three months previous to the election.

12. Electoral lists containing name, age, occupation, and residence of voters shall be published in every district at least four weeks before the election, and be open to general inspection. Objections must be made within a week after the lists are issued, and will be decided in a fortnight, after which the lists will be closed.

13. The election is to be public. It shall be superintended by members of the commune not holding any State or communal office. Voting to be exercised in person by voting papers without signature.

14. If an election does not give an absolute majority, a second election must take place. If an absolute majority be not then gained, upon the third occasion the choice will be between those two candidates who had most votes at the second election. In equality of votes, drawing by lot shall decide.

16. No substitutes for members shall

decide.

15. No substitutes for members shall be elected.

16. The elections are to take place throughout the country upon one and the same day, to be fixed by the Government. Supplementary elections that may be subsequently required will be ordered by the Government of the State in which they occur.

17. The Governments of individual States shall make all further arrangements as to electoral districts, superintendents, and proceedings that may be requisite, in so far as not hereby provided for or not in future settled by the central authority.

PROSECUTION OF EX-GOVERNOR EYRE.

THE Jamaica committee having determined to endeavour to have a prosecution instituted against Mr. Eyre, late Governor of Jamaica, it was proposed that the prosecution should be made at the instance of Mrs. Gordon, should the Government decline to take the matter up. Against this resolution Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., chairman of the committee, protested, and resigned; and the following letters on the same subject have been sent to the committee by Mrs. Gordon:

Regent's Park, July 2.

My dear Sir,—The published resolutions of the Jamaica committee respecting a criminal prosecution of Mr. Ryre, and Mr. C. Buxton's letter deprecating such a course, appear to me to require some notice from myself as the person most interested in this grave matter. I am very grateful to the kind friends who manifest such sincere sympathy for me in my deep affliction, and who seek to vindicate the memory of my dear husband. In any other circumstances I should desire to be guided by their counsel; but in the present case I solicit permission to give utterance to my own feelings, which, I trust, will not be disregarded.

I shrink from the step suggested. My martyred husband, shaping his course in public and in private life by his Christian profession, died forgiving his enemies. My carnest desire is to follow his example, and I feel that in doing this I am only acting in harmony with the sentiments he expressed in his last letter to me, and with the precepts of the Divine Master whose faithful servant he was.

White yielding up my heart in gratitude for the grace which has been vouchsafed to me, and which alone has sustained me under this grievous affliction. I leave Mr. Eyre and those who have aided him in his cruel proceedings in the hands of "Him who judgeth righteously."

Degging you to make such use of this letter as you may judge best, I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely.

Mr. L. A. Chamerovzow.

My dear Sir, — If male the sum of the committee of the sum of the sum

Mr. L. A. Chamerovzow.

M. GORDON.

40, Avenue-road, July 14.

My dear Sir,— If my letter to you of the 2nd has placed the Jamaica committee in any embarrassment I shall regret the circumstance. My object in writing to you was to give my reasons for not becoming the prosecutor in this case, and I feel that to that resolution I must adhere. If, however, the Jamaica committee consider it advisable, on the grounds of public interests and public justice, and especially with reference to the future security of the black race, to take proceedings for the vindication of these great principles, so outraged by Mr. Eyre and his coadjutors, I do not see how I can in any way interfere.

As many of my friends are under the impression that I intend to prosecute Mr. Eyre, and are pained that I should have such thoughts, I think it desirable that this letter and my former one should be published.

With every sentiment of gratitude, I am, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely.

Mr. L. A. Chamerovzow.

INTERESTING SWIMMING-MATCH.—The banks of the Serpentine were crowded on Monday morning by the spectators of a closely-contested swimming-match. It is said that at least 12.000 persons were present. The competitors were Henry Coulter and David Pamplin, two of the finest swimmers of the day. The former is the captain of the Serpentine Club, and has won many prizes, including one of Sir William Fraser's annual gold medals. He was, however, besten last year by Henry Gurr, the champlon swimmer of England. Pamplin is considered the next best swimmer to Gurr, and is also the winner of many prizes. The course was from the railings at one end to Kensington Bridge at the other. Both rose at the same moment from the dip, started nose and nose, and for a considerable disease each maintained that relative position. At about half way Coulter made a spurt and gained a length, but Pamplin kept steadily on and passed his opponent. Coulter made another effort and again gained about half a length, but Pamplin specifily came up, and eventually won by four lengths.

Representation of Petersfield.—William Nicholson, Esq., of

length, but Pamplin speedily came up, and eventually won by four lengths.

REPRESENTATION OF PETERSFIELD, — William Nicholson, Req., of Basing Park, Petersfield, has accepted a requisition to stand in the Liberal interest for the borough, for which there is a vacancy consequent on the elevation to the Peerage of Sir Wm. Jolliffe, now Lord Hilton. No opposition is likely to be offered to his return. Petersfield had for some time in Mr. Hector a member of advanced Liberal opinions; and, though the high character and great personal and local influence of Sir Wm. Jolliffe turned the scale in his favour, and enabled him to hold the seat uncontested for many years, there has always been a strong Liberal party in the borough, as the majority in the district in favour of Sir Henry Mildmay at the last county election went far to prove. Under these circumstances a stranger would have no chance. Indeed, it is believed that Lord Hilton would not countenance the introduction of a "foreigner," who, without any adequate prospect of success, would involve the constituency in the evils of a contest, which the Liberals have for many Parliaments forborns to raise.

DUTY ON FIRE INSURANCES.—The Parliamentary Return of the insur-

which the Liberals have for many Parliaments forborne to raise.

DUTY ON FIRE INSURANCES.—The Parliamentary Return of the insurance duty paid in 1865 has just been published, and is the last return which will embody the differential rates on stock (1s. 6d. per cent) and on buildings and furniture (3s. per cent). The subjoined list shows the rates of increase of duty paid by the several companies in 1855, as compared with 1864:—Royal, £17,708; Alliance and Birmingtam District (Amalgamated), £5690; Phomins, £4955; Sun, £4852; North British and Morcantile, £3376; Queen, £3146; Western, £2960; Norwich Union, £2814; Law, £2753; London and Lancashire, £2375; County, £2475; Commercial Union, £2185; London, £1804; London and Southwark, £1716; Scottish, £1714; Manchester, £1607; Birmingham Alliance, £1583; Albert, £1311; Home and Colontal, £1319; European, £1309; Weat of England, £1244; Guardian, £1174; Atlas, £1168; Law Union, £390; Scottish Union, £324; Provincial, £760; Scottish Provincial, £693; Caledonian, £645; Northern, £373; Church of England, £350; Salop, £268; Norwich Equitable, £245; British Nation, £245; Nottinghamshire and Derbysbire, £241.

WE last week commented upon the adjournment the inquest upon the body of Dr. Warder, a sysician of Brighton, who, under suspicion of ving poisoned his wife, destroyed himself by king prussic acid. The inquest, at the time of a writing, stood adjourned for a post-mortem amination of the brain of the deceased gentleman. Thaps this is the first time, in juridical experience, at such a test has ever been applied to distinguish tween deliberate suicide and self-murder under mporary insanity. Why should it have been dotted in this case? Because Dr. Warder was spected of having murdered his wife? If so, it at once conceded that, while a simple suicide may a prima facie, taken to have been insane, his having eviously killed somebody else may raise a premption of his having been of sound mind. Mark

sility, obtain another situation on her disrige.

from the same newspaper we extract some very
tarkable judicial dicta by one W. S. Grey, Esq.
nan named Hannon was taken into custody for
ng drunk and fighting. He hanged himself in
lock-up. A policeman cut him down. Says
Grey-"I doubt whether it was well to cut him
on. There is no doubt the man has some disease
his head. . . . He will die by apoplexy if he
is not hang himself or drown himself in the
on time" (that is to say in the interim between
cide and subsequent death by apoplexy). "The
n who attempts to commit succide attempts to
much self-murder." Afterwards, to defendant,
tut as you appear to have done it without the
ermination to commit suicide, we will look over
upon taking your promise never to do it again."

the advertisement, because it is by no means unlikely to be that of some respectable person or persons who have consented to receive letters for "Lot," little draming of the kind of advertisement

ier. The other woman then broke eight panes of Instead of getting surgical aid for Salter she was to the station, and the police had to send for a to set her shoulder. D'Eyncourt discharged Salter, and said too much had been used towards her. The matter ought to ulred into by the authorities. The prisoner Ryan be sent to gaol for a month.

HEAP EXCURSIONS to BRIGHTON

and BACK EVERY SUNDAY for M., from London Bridge,
fletoria, and Kansington, at 9,0 a m. The Kenzington Train calls
t. Cheliers at 9,4 m. i., Clapham Junction, 9,0 a.m.; crystal
alson, 8,38 a.m.; Norwood Junction, 9,34 a.m.; and East Croydon,
alson, 8,38 a.m.; Norwood Junction, 9,34 a.m.; and East Croydon,
rom Brighton for Victoria at 7,0 p.m.; for Kenzington at 7,10

m. (calling at East Croydon, Norwood Junction, Crystal Palson,
lapham Junction, and Chelsea); and for London Bridge at
30 n.m.

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UNDAY,—Trains from Victoris at 840 a.m., London Bridge at
10 a.m., calling at Croydon at 335 a.m.,
135 p.m.; St. Leonards, 645 p.m.; Eastbourne, 6,55 p.m.; Foleate, 7,10 p.m.; and Lewes at 7.37 p.m.; and the Return Train for
condon Bridge will leave Hastings at 6.10 p.m.; St. Leonards,
18 p.m.; Eastbourne, 6.35 p.m.; Folegate, 8,47; and Lewes at
13 p.m.

First Class, 7s. 6d.: Second Class, 5s. 6d.: Third Class, 3s. 6d. Children under Twelve years of age half price. No lugg

BIOWEL

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SUNDAY,—Trains from Victoria at 7.55 a.m., London Bridge at
a.m., calling at Croydon at 5.33 a.m.

The Victoria Train will leave Portamouth on the Return Journey
at 6.59 p.m., Hawant at 7.6 p.m., Chichester at 7.35 p.m., Bognor at
5.50 p.m., Littlehampton at 7.15 p.m., Arunda 7.33 p.m. and the
Estara Train for London Bridge will leave Portamouth at 7.10 p.m.,
Hawant at 7.26 p.m., Chichester at 7.45 p.m., Bognor at 7.40 p.m.,
Littlehampton at 7.15 p.m., Chichester at 7.45 p.m., Bognor at 7.40 p.m.,
Littlehampton at 7.15 p.m. and Arunda at 8.13 p.m.

Littlehampton at 7.15 p.m. and Arunda at 8.13 p.m.

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